Written testimony against HB248

This bill does not promote individual freedom or liberties. Instead, it does the exact opposite by making it harder to protect an individual's health. As physicians we have seen the benefits of universal vaccination programs in terms of eradicating illnesses like polio, smallpox, measles and mumps as well as decreasing cervical cancer rates. This law would slowly turn Ohio into a state with third world conditions and force doctors to treat illnesses they have not seen before. Public health is about protecting the community and not the individual only. Laws should protect public health and I would ask the health committee to vote against HB248 as a way to protect all Ohioans.

Thank you very much for reviewing my testimony. Anita Somani MD Physicians Action Network