August 18, 2021

Chairman Lipps and Members of the House Health Committee,

Today I am writing this testimony as a proponent of Ohio HB 248.

I support HB 248 because I am very concerned about two things:

1.<u>safety</u> - This is an experimental vaccine, and to the best of my knowledge, there have been no long term studies on it, nor are participants provided a list of ingredients, nor are they educated on the possible side effects of receiving the vaccine. In addition, the data reported in VAERS is extremely concerning with the number of individuals who have had adverse reactions and/or death after receiving the experimental COVID 19 vaccination. Furthermore, there are numerous medical professionals who have disclosed that there are alternate ways to treat COVID 19 and a vaccine is not necessary for everyone.

2.<u>privacy</u> - A person should not have to disclose their choice about any medical procedure, including vaccination status. That is a personal decision that should remain confidential between the patient and their doctor.

3.<u>rights</u> - In this free nation, citizens do have rights to make decisions. Sometimes, there are consequences for making the wrong decision (a person drinking alcohol may drive a car; until there is an injury or accident, does the government take away this person's right to consume alcohol? No.) Yet, citizens have the right to choose. Imposing this bill mandating a vaccine because an elected politician or politicians will vote on it violates a citizen's right to select physician's advice on what is best for that person. But, even if the physician is inclined to believe it's best, the physician cannot force someone to have a better diet, heart surgery, or a colonoscopy. Politicians cannot decide that to mandate medical decisions, even if politicians believe it is in the best interest of some people. People can and are able to make common sense decisions when correct, even if opposing, information is allowed to be examined by individual citizens without bias from media, politicians, or special interest groups.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on the need and urgency of passing House Bill 248.

Sincerely, Karen Vaughn