August 20, 2021

Ohio House Heath Committee Members, including Chairman Lipps, Vice Chair Holmes, and Ranking Member Russo:

TESTIMONY RE: Ohio H.B. 248 Vaccine Choice & Anti-Discrimination Act

Thank you for the opportunity to provide proponent testimony on House Bill 248.

My name is Kathleen Mertens and I am a Registered Nurse and university student, earning my RN-BSN degree. The reason I support House Bill 248 is, as health care providers, we know individuals have the autonomy to decide their medical treatment, not have it forced upon them, and are granted confidentiality of their medical records. If inoculations are mandated and disclosed involuntarily, we no longer have the right to refuse a medical treatment or have the right to medical privacy. The question that comes to mind is, where will this end? It won't. It is creeping into every aspect of our lives.

The controversial Covid-19 "vaccines" are not vaccines at all; they are emergency-use-only mRNA gene therapies that have never been used before in humans, and are recklessly being touted as safe and effective when they clearly are not, as they cause pathogenic priming for cytokine storm due to antibody enhancement. In all prior coronavirus trials, animals who received the experimental agents died. Many physicians, such as Frontline Doctors, have attested to this, but they are being silenced.

At my university, the president has labeled students "unvaccinated" who have not uploaded their Covid-19 "vaccination" status, and sent repeated emails insisting students "get vaccinated." Receiving correspondence beginning with "Dear Unvaccinated Student" is discriminatory and divisive. If my clinical sites mandate this shot, I will be excluded from continuing my education and will be forced to take legal action.

Forced inoculation requirements will prohibit or limit my opportunities in obtaining professional employment, as I choose to exercise my God-given inherent rights not to be injected with experimental or undesired medical treatments that have unknown long-term health consequences as well as reported injuries and death, and that would alter my natural immune system which has proven effective throughout my lifetime of excellent health.

Furthermore, the survival rate for Covid-19 has been reported as upwards of 94-99+%, and there are existing treatments for Covid-19 that have been proven effective when taken early or prophylactically, namely hydroxychloroquine and Ivermectin, which pose little to no side effects.

Additionally, at this time, the makers of Covid-19 "vaccines" have been excused from any liability associated with their experimental agents that have been reported to cause autoimmune disorders, bleeding, blood clots, strokes, cardiac, neurological, and reproductive issues, as well as death. Taking this shot equates to Russian Roulette on our dime. Forcing this shot is an injustice. It is medical malpractice to force individuals to be "vaccinated" against their will for any reason, including for conditions of employment, education, public transportation, to be on a transplant list, or purchase groceries.

Finally, these agents are reported to be produced using aborted fetal cells and, ethically, as a Christian and vegan, I will not accept it.

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

Sincerely,

Kathleen Mertens, RN