Chairman Lipps, Vice Chair Holmes, Ranking Member Russo, and Members of the House Health Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide proponent testimony on House Bill 248. My name is Mary Jane Ashley. I am a masters prepared nurse who educates student nurses at Mt Camel College of Nursing. I also work as a staff RN on the Behavioral Health Units at Riverside Hospital.

I support House Bill 248 because I firmly believe in medical freedom for all those who are competent to make their own decisions. As a nurse and mother, I have always focused on maintaining one's best heath through exercise and healthy eating. I pride myself in focusing on these areas and use these natural means as much as possible to maintain my health. All medications, vaccines, injections have side effects so it is responsible for one to fully understand these side effects and weigh benefit vs risk. This also applies to surgery and other treatments that a physician recommends. As a competent person, I have the right to choose whether I accept or decline a "vaccine" with unknown short and long term side effects.

Unfortunately, I am in jeopardy of being fired from both of my career jobs as all hospitals in Columbus, Ohio are mandating this "vaccine". This is outrageous as administration is taking freedom of choice away from each employee. I have worked for Mt Carmel 30 plus years and can count on one hand the times I have called in ill. How can this be legal? I was not told on hire that I would need to accept all vaccines and booster shots as they became available for any illness.

I am also a mother of 2 adopted children and am very opposed to any "vaccine" that uses aborted fetal tissue either in the development/testing or actual product. I believe God graciously provided us with a well-designed immune system that should not be altered with an mRNA newly developed "vaccine". To follow God is to follow your conscience.

As an American, I have the right to choose my health care including treatments, medications and vaccines. This right has always been honored with our patients who are their own guardians. So why would this be different for healthcare providers such as myself?

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

Sincerely, Mary Jane Ashley