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 Sherri Montgomery, and I work for a durable medical equipment company, specializing in respiratory needs. I support HB248 even though I am exposed to respiratory diseases daily. I believe that our country was founded upon the fundamental principle that we are free to make the choice that is right for us. I have a daughter who has been diagnosed with PCOS, making her high risk for getting pregnant and carrying her child full term. She and her husband have been trying to have a baby for almost 5 years now. If she is forced to take this vaccine, she increases her chances of miscarrying—chances that are already high for her. I look at the 1,381 cases of miscarriages due to the vaccine, and I am deeply concerned.

My daughter and sons all work in places where they are forced to wear masks if they are not vaccinated. Their co-workers and customers daily discriminate against them for their decision—the decision they are currently FREE to make. The decision that is no one else's business to know but my children's.

Both of my parents chose to receive the vaccine; I am thrilled that they have that FREE choice. However, my mom's dementia has very rapidly worsened since receiving the vaccine. My dad had a major heart surgery after receiving the vaccine, and he has had two extensive blood clots—so extensive that the surgeon said he hadn't seen a case that bad in many years. My nurse practitioner, who daily sees cases of side effects from the COVID vaccine, reports that the vaccine impacts us vascularly and neurologically. My parent's side effects are due to this vaccine. But it was a choice my parents got to make. It was not forced upon them.

In conclusion, I ask that you allow us to continue to weigh the risks for ourselves and freely make the choice that we know we can live with—for our own risk factors and life values.

Thank you for the privilege of sharing my testimony with you regarding HB248.

Sincerely,

Sherri Montgomery