

Chairman Cutrona, Vice Chair Gross, Ranking Member Somani, and members of the Health Provider Services Committee, thank you for allowing me to provide support testimony for HB 319; "The Conscientious Right to Refuse Act." I am the mother of two wonderful daughters, and they are the reasons why I strongly support the passage of this bill into law.

My older daughter patriotically chose to join the Air Force when she was 18 years old and proudly served until October of last year. When the Biden administration mandated that all members of the military receive the Covid-19 shot, she complied with the Commander in Chief despite her reservations. She became sick after taking the shot, and continues to be affected, experiencing a racing heartbeat with the slightest exertion.

My younger daughter was diagnosed with Friedreich's Ataxia as a child and had been going to MDA camp for years until 2020. She always looked forward to camp and was devastated when she couldn't go because she had not received a Covid-19 shot. I was concerned that the shot would harm her as she already was suffering issues with her heart, so we were unable to send her to camp for several years.

I don't want what happened to my daughters to happen to anyone else. Please pass HB 319 so that these mistakes never happen again.