

SUPPORT HB1171 – Maryland Employee Protection Plan for Vaccine Refusal

Dear Economic Affairs Committee members,

Thank you for your service to our community. I am writing today express my strong support for HB1171, the Maryland Employee Protection Plan for Vaccine Refusal. I support this bill for several reasons:

I do not want to lose my job or be unable to find another job due to mandates. We do not have ANY long-term safety data.

Additionally, these vaccines use mRNA technology. This kind of technology has been in development for some time but has NEVER been used in the human population. In fact, previous attempts at developing coronavirus vaccines stopped after animal trials because the animals, when challenged with the virus post-vaccination, developed systemic body inflammation and died.

The manufacturers of these experimental vaccines are NOT liable for any resulting injuries (no matter how debilitating) and/or deaths. The PREP Act has given them full immunity. In fact, there is little recourse for any victims of injury/death, as the fund that is supposed to pay out has not even been funded, has a shorter statute of limitations for filing claims, has a higher bar to prove the injury and is far less generous (see attached Wall Street Journal article). Additionally, the safety monitoring system the FDA promised is not even up and running yet (see attached NY Times article). This then begs the question: if an employer mandates this product and I get injured, who will pay for my medical bills? The risk is entirely on the consumer. This is an unfair/unlevel playing field. Since a high number of vaccine recipients are falling ill post vaccination, will my employer provide paid time off? In fact, at least 2 school districts had to cancel classes as a result of teachers falling ill as a result of these vaccines (see 2 attached articles).

Please also consider that Pfizer and Moderna trials were NOT designed to learn if these vaccines stop transmission (see attached Forbes article). They only saw that they can lower risk of severe disease. We are being told that even AFTER vaccination, masks and distancing STILL need to happen. This is very troubling.

Lastly, the science and recommendations around these vaccines and many other aspects of managing this pandemic have been conflicting and contradictory on many, many issues. For example, guidelines changed around how long one should stay and be monitored post vaccination to ensure there would be no anaphylactic shock (as a result of this increased risk – which, by the way is anywhere from 2 - 10x higher than ANY other vaccine on the market, those administering COVID vaccines must have the appropriate medical supplies to on site to treat this (see CDC information). To provide context, the CDC states that the incidence for anaphylaxis is 1.3 per million doses for ANY vaccine and 1.6 per million doses for a certain type of flu vaccine (see attached CDC data). The incidence of anaphylaxis for the Pfizer vaccine is 11.1 per million cases for Pfizer and 2.5 per million for the Moderna vaccine (see attached JAMA article). These rates are MUCH higher than any other vaccines on the market. The ingredient PEG (polyethylene glycol) is suspected to be the cause of anaphylaxis.

Scientists have also gone back and forth on whether or not those who have contracted COVID naturally should be vaccinated, and when. They also have no clear guidance on pregnancy and breastfeeding. There are questions about mixing and matching brands, whether or not to complete the 2-dose series or just give one dose to everyone at first so more people can have initially one dose. There is no guidance yet on how things will change once we are fully vaccinated. This is just a

sampling of many of the uncertainties around these experimental products. I am very much pro-science and would like to see full safety data before potentially losing my job over the choice to take this intervention. Please support this bill and vote favorably on it. Thank you very much.

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WSJ:

<https://www.wsj.com/articles/people-harmed-by-coronavirus-vaccines-will-have-little-recourse-11602432000>

NYTIMES:

<https://www.nytimes.com/2021/02/12/health/covid-vaccine-how-safe.html>

<https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/us/burlington-schools-move-online-temporarily-after-staff-experiences-side-effects-from-covid-19-vaccine/ar-BB1e8eb0>

<https://fox8.com/news/coronavirus/fairless-local-schools-cancels-class-over-covid-19-vaccine-reactions/>

FORBES:

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/williamhaseltine/2020/09/23/covid-19-vaccine-protocols-reveal-that-trials-are-designed-to-succeed/?sh=6e47c1c35247>

CDC Anaphylaxis Guidance:

<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/clinical-considerations/managing-anaphylaxis.html>

CDC Anaphylaxis rates:

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6896995/pdf/nihms-1049316.pdf>

JAMA article:

<https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama/fullarticle/2776557>