

3/5/21

HB1171: Labor and Employment – Maryland Employee Protection Plan for Vaccine Refusal

### **SUPPORT**

Dear Chair Davis, Vice-Chair Dumais, and members of the Economic Matters Committee,

I am writing today to request a favorable report for HB 1171.

Like most Americans, I have been extremely disturbed by what has transpired in this country over the course of the past year. I can remember the period in February 2020 when COVID and the corresponding wave of fear began to make its way across the country. The uncertainty and lack of good information led to panic, as a “two week” mandated lockdown was initiated to “flatten the curve.”

What appeared to be completely illogical at the time, in hindsight, was just that. We were told not to wear masks because they facilitated the spread of the virus. That seemed like a lie and it was.

We were told to stand 6 feet apart. That seemed arbitrary and it was.

How could a nationwide two week lockdown prevent the spread when it was travelling in different pockets throughout the country? It couldn't.

Those of us who eat real food, exercise, and avoid environmental toxins wherever possible saw this as the greatest opportunity we have ever had to inspire the general population to improve their personal health and wellbeing.

Instead, people were forced to stay locked in their homes and liquor stores were deemed essential businesses.

Over one year later, we are now facing another untruth. It seemed easy to predict the “miracle” development of a fast tracked experimental vaccine (I use the term fully aware that the Moderna and Pfizer shots are mRNA gene therapies as opposed to vaccines). After being fed lie after lie, and sending hundreds of thousands of Americans into a physical and emotional tailspin, we are now being told that if we just take the spike, and then another, everything will be fine and we can go back to normal. We were warned upfront by health experts that they were not expecting the vaccines to be completely safe, and yet now we are being told to have faith in the integrity of the pharmaceutical companies. I'm sorry, but I am not willing to roll the dice with my health and the health of my family.

Most of your constituents are probably not aware that all liability has been removed from these manufacturers.

Neither the state nor my employer have the right to make medical decisions for me and my family, especially in regards to a non-FDA approved, experimental treatment that could make me extremely ill or kill me. What if I were to develop cancer as a result of taking the shot? Who would pay for my treatment and my wages when I was unable to work?

If my employer decides to mandate the vaccine, I will be forced to resign, leaving myself no means to providing for my family. Please allow the clinical research to play out before making these vaccines compulsory. I understand the desire to but the COVID virus behind us but we certainly do not want a situation where the cure winds up doing more damage than the disease.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Matt Klang