

I strongly SUPPORT HB 0799, and I am grateful to have elected officials that are in touch with their constituents and in tune with what we've been through. I am a nurse at a local hospital. I was given an ultimatum last September; I was to take an EUA injection, or I would have to resign. I submitted an exemption request, which I was unable to submit without attesting that I would "willfully resign" if an accommodation could not be made for my request. I was given a deadline to comply with a mandate. My exemption request was denied, and I was placed into suspension status because I did not unwillingly inject an EUA substance into my body. I am a seasoned nurse with over a decade of experience in specialties from Intensive Care to Outpatient Clinic, and everywhere in between. I have the knowledge and skill to care for patients anywhere in the hospital, yet I was not permitted to work, even though local hospitals were portraying a "staffing crisis". We are in desperate need of a streamlined exemption process for medical, religious, and philosophical circumstances, especially in the case of annually recommended injections like the flu shot and coming soon, the covid booster. It is also worth noting that an EUA substance cannot and should not be mandated for anyone under any circumstances, and employers should be required to honor that as well.