

March 2, 2023

Delegate Josselyn Pena-Melynk

Chair

House Health and Government Operations Committee

HBB 699- State and Local Government- Proof of Vaccination for Employees and Applicants for Employment- Prohibition (Vaccination by Choice Act)

Position: FAVORABLE with Amendment

Dear Chair Pena- Melynk and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to voice my strong support for HB 699- State and Local Government- Proof of Vaccination for Employees and Applicants for Employment- Prohibition (Vaccination by Choice Act). As a former healthcare employee, I have seen many side effects of mandatory vaccinations and I have also been subject to mandatory vaccinations by my employer, all of which were not favorable. I do understand the desire and need to have the employees vaccinated to protect the clients/customers/etc. but it does not protect the employee. They just become more susceptible to illness and vaccine injury. I also firmly believe that as an employee, I should be able to make the choice for myself as to whether or not I want to receive an employers required vaccines. I also don't expect the employer to keep me on staff if I choose not to comply. I should NOT be forced to vaccinate myself or lose my job though.

I also understand that this bill also encompasses higher education. My children and others should not be forced to be vaccinated in order to obtain a higher education. If we are paying for our own education, we should be able to decided whether or not we want to be vaccinated in order attend higher education. This prohibits us from doing better for ourselves, getting education required to obtain a better paying career.

I urge you to consider your position on this bill. Please prohibit Proof of Vaccination for Higher education and for Employment! Thank you!

Sincerely,

Rebecca Williams

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