

- Delegate Josselyn Pena- Melnyk
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Chair

House Health and Government Operations

Committee

HB 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- Melnyk 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)

My name is Peter D'Orazio. I am a registered pharmacist in MD and I fully support HB699 with Amendment.

As a registered pharmacist, I believe all Americans should have the freedom to choose what pharmaceuticals are administered to them. This is especially true for vaccinations, as once they are injected there is no removal, unlike a daily treatment which is eliminated by our body much more quickly.

Personally, I had a severe case of Covid early in the Pandemic. After recovery, I had robust antibodies documented by instant Covid-19 antibody testing. Regardless, my employer insisted i get vaccinated and would not allow a medical exemption. Despite my uneasiness, I received my vaccination and immediately got extremely ill. That evening I spiked a fever of 104°F and got an extreme headache. The next morning, I had a virtual appointment with my Dr who would not see me directly because of their Covid policies. The Dr. immediately noted my right eye was drooping badly (ptosis) and suspected a stroke or Bell's Palsy. They performed a virtual stroke test, which I passed, but they referred me to the hospital immediately as a precaution. I felt too sick to go and suspected it was just a violent inflammatory reaction rather than a stroke, so I stayed home in bed. Over the next week I got better but felt off for weeks afterwards. The irony is that I still got covid at least 2 more times over the next 1.5 years, as did everyone I knew that had been vaccinated.

Everyone should have the right to assess their personal benefit/risk with their personal MD and decide on their own if vaccination will be of benefit.

A recent Cleveland Clinic study of their 51000 employees came to the following startling (to some) conclusion:

“The risk of COVID-19 also varied by the number of COVID-19 vaccine doses previously received. The higher the number of vaccines previously received, the higher the risk of contracting COVID-19 (Figure 2).”
<https://www.medrxiv.org/content/10.1101/2022.12.17.22283625v1.full>

If the vaccination induces more illness, why are we even recommending it, much less mandating it.

Please continue to support freedom of health choice in Maryland.

Have a wonderful Day.

Thank You,

Peter D'orazio, RPh.
