

Emily Tarsell, LCPC

**2314 Benson Mill Road
Sparks, Maryland 21152**

March 5, 2024

FAVORABLE with AMENDMENT SB431

Madame Chair, Sponsors and Senate Finance Committee Members,

I am Emily Tarsell, a mom, a licensed therapist and President of Health Choice Maryland. We favor SB 431 with an amendment to include for compensation those eligible employees who were Covid vaccine injured.

All medical procedures and products come with risk. Such is the case with the COVID 19 vaccines. We now have documented studies and reports of serious adverse outcomes from COVID vaccines: blood clots, heart inflammation, seizures, autoimmune disorders, chronic fatigue, ringing in the ears, POTS and more.[1] The National Institute of Health (NIH) and Center for Disease Control (CDC) acknowledge a causal relationship between COVID 19 vaccination and myocarditis and other outcomes are pending.[2,3,4,5]

COVID vaccines were fast track approved with little testing. Pharma and the medical industry were given blanket immunity for adverse outcomes. So where do heroes who were COVID vaccinated to help others go when they become the Covid vaccine injured? There are heroes with us on Zoom. They suffer serious afflictions but feel abandoned by a system

- Where your voice is censored or silenced and no one is running a marathon or wearing a ribbon for you.
- Where there is no research for you and your case is called a “rare” event– as if being catastrophically harmed physically, emotionally and financially is irrelevant; you’re just a statistic.
- Where you have no legal recourse. You were mandated to accept 100% of the risk, while our government and the manufacturers have no liability or obligation to help you. They failed to put in place robust policies to protect those who would be harmed.
- Where you have little to no chance for any compensation. The Covid vaccine compensation program, the CICP, is broken, underfunded, lacks transparency and to date has paid only 11 claims for an average payment of \$3,700.

These heroes were abandoned by the system and left to fend for themselves medically and financially. We ask that the bill be amended to honor and include these heroes.

Thank you.

Emily Tarsell

References:

- [1] See attached list of references.
- [2]<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41598-022-10928-z>
- [3] National Library of Medicine <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC10043280/>
- [4] National Institute of Health <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC9905103/>
- [5] Vaccine and Immunization CDC <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/clinical-considerations/myocarditis.html>