Ohio Children's Hospital Association
Saving, protecting and enhancing children's lives
OPA
OHIO PHARMACISTS ASSOCIATION
Ohio State Medical Association
OHIO CHAMBER of COMMERCE
Ohio Business Roundtable
BASA
Ohio's Superintendent Association
The Ohio Manufacturers' ASSOCIATION
Bio
Biotechnology Innovation Organization
OHIO HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION
ONA
OHIO NURSES ASSOCIATION
THE VOICE OF OHIO'S REGISTERED NURSES
OAHP
PROMEDICA
RUSSELL J. EBEID CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL
OCALI
Inspiring Change for People with Disabilities
ODA
OHIO DERMATOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION
ACP
American College of Physicians
Leading Internal Medicine, Improving Lives
AOHC
Association of Ohio Health Commissioners, Inc.
OACCP
Ohio Association of Child Care Providers
Influence. Inform. Invest.
Anthem
Ohio Hematology Oncology Society
MOLINA HEALTHCARE
Akron Children's Hospital
children's defense fund ohio
OHIO ORTHOPAEDIC SOCIETY
Columbus Medical Association
Ohio ACEP
American College of Emergency Physicians
Advocacy | Education | Leadership
BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OHIO ALLIANCE
Groundwork OHIO
OAAPN
Ohio Association of Advanced Practice Nurses
Ohio Chapter
INCORPORATED IN OHIO
American Academy of Pediatrics
DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN
buckeye health plan
Your Guide to Better Health
OHIO STATE CORONERS ASSOCIATION
University Hospitals
Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital
Cincinnati Children's
SummaCare
AMCNO
The Academy of Medicine of Cleveland & Northern Ohio
MGMA OHIO
THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF OBSTETRICIANS AND GYNECOLOGISTS
1951
WOMEN'S HEALTH CARE PHYSICIANS
OAFP
dayton children's
Cancer Action Network
American Cancer Society
Ohio Society of Pathologists
NATIONWIDE CHILDREN'S
When your child needs a hospital, everything matters.
OHIO OSTEOPATHIC ASSOCIATION
OHCA
OHIO HEALTH CARE ASSOCIATION
OhioHealth
ACS Chapters | Ohio
100 years
AMERICAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS
Inspiring Quality: Highest Standards, Better Outcomes
Arthritis Foundation
Ohio Association of Rheumatology
OAR
immunizeohio.org
OHIO PSYCHIATRIC PHYSICIANS ASSOCIATION
CHARITABLE HEALTHCARE NETWORK
Ohio: Stronger. Healthier. Together.
OHIO ASSOCIATION SCHOOL NURSES
OASN
AMERICAN COLLEGE OF CARDIOLOGY
Ohio CHAPTER
UC Health

Monday, May 24, 2021

To: Members of the Ohio House Health Committee
Re: HB 248-11

Dear Ohio House Health Committee,

As organizations representing 1.3 million+ Ohioans, we are gravely concerned by HB 248-11, legislation that **puts ALL Ohioans, including children, at risk.** Among us are physicians, nurses, health commissioners, hospitals and business owners, who feel moved to firmly voice our shared concerns. At its core, this proposal would **destroy our current public health framework that prevents outbreaks of potentially lethal diseases, threaten the stability of our economy as it recovers from a devastating pandemic, and jeopardize the way we live, learn, work and celebrate life.**

The legislature has heard that this bill's purpose is to prevent the COVID-19 vaccine from becoming mandatory, but HB 248-11 applies to ALL immunizations, including childhood vaccines. If passed, **this legislation has the potential to reverse decades of immunity from life-threatening, but vaccine-preventable diseases** such as measles, mumps, hepatitis, meningitis and tuberculosis. In fact, the words "COVID-19" or "coronavirus" are not found anywhere in the bill.

This legislation would also take away the rights of individuals who have businesses in Ohio to implement important safety measures meant to protect their employees, clients, and others. Many businesses have seen enormous fallout as a result of the pandemic and are working to rebuild and move forward. Business owners should each retain the right to carefully evaluate the unique circumstances they face, and make their own determinations about what is best for keeping the workplace healthy and their overall recovery.

As current Ohio law allows for school immunization exemptions for medical, religious, or reasons of conscience (known as the philosophical exemption), and most businesses allow for flexibility in regard to vaccinations, we question the need for HB 248-11. This overly broad proposal would further strip away accountability and compassion for our fellow Ohioans, and cause severe disruption to our state's health, economy, and way of life. **It is our urgent plea that HB 248-11 be rejected, to protect the vitality of Ohio's children and families and avoid disastrous consequences for the future of our state.**

Respectfully,

Akron Children's Hospital
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network, Inc.
American College of Emergency Physicians
American College of Physicians
American College of Surgeons - Ohio
Anthem
Arthritis Foundation
Association of Ohio Health Commissioners
BASA – Ohio's Superintendent Association
Biotechnology Innovation Organization (BIO)
Buckeye Health Plan
Charitable Healthcare Network
Children's Defense Fund
Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center
Columbus Medical Association
Dayton Children's Hospital
Groundwork Ohio
Immunize Ohio
Medical Group Management Association
Molina Healthcare
Nationwide Children's Hospital
Ohio Chapter - American Academy of Pediatrics
Ohio Academy of Family Physicians
Ohio Alliance of Boys and Girls Clubs
Ohio American College of Emergency Physicians
Ohio Association of Advanced Practice Nurses
Ohio Association of Child Care Providers
Ohio Association of Health Plans
Ohio Association of Rheumatology
Ohio Association of School Nurses
Ohio Business Roundtable
OCALI
Ohio Chamber of Commerce
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Ohio Children's Hospital Association
Ohio Coroners Association
Ohio Dermatological Association
Ohio Health Care Association
Ohio Health
Ohio Hematology Oncology Society
Ohio Hospital Association
Ohio Manufacturers' Association
Ohio Nurses Association
Ohio Orthopaedic Society
Ohio Osteopathic Association
Ohio Pharmacists Association
Ohio Psychiatric Physicians Association
Ohio Society of Pathologists
Ohio State Coroners Association
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The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
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