January 25, 2021 Written Testimony of Salesha Olson in Support of HB 1377 relating to immunization exemptions

Chairman Weisz and members of the House Human Services Committee, I am writing in strong support of HB 1377.

It is common knowledge that health is a personal and complicated topic. However, it is uncommon to consider each person unique when it comes to vaccination schedules and recommendations. Medical choice should exist as a basic human freedom, now and always.

I'm aware that this is not a vaccine safety debate, however it is important to keep in mind that a statement from the United States Congress and acknowledged by the Supreme Court of the United States deems vaccines to be unavoidably unsafe. With that in mind, how can we NOT allow a person to exempt themselves from vaccination? There are a multitude of health conditions, allergies, and concerns that would prevent particular people from being able to safely receive a vaccination.

The right to choose an exemption should be a well-known and easily accessible option without beratement from medical providers, daycares, schools, employers, or anyone else.

I ask that you recommend a DO PASS on HB 1377 as originally written with no amendments.

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