

HB 1204

Limitations on requirements to wear a mask at work: in support

Good Afternoon,

I am testifying in support of HB 1204. My husband and I own a business. We understand that masks are not medically safe or appropriate for all. We have listened to testimonies of OSHA professionals, doctors, mental health therapists, and other reputable health professionals who warn that the wearing of masks and facial covering can be dangerous for some individuals, especially for those who wear them for long periods of time, as is common in a work-related setting.

As business owners and friends of business owners, we know that we do not have the authority to force a medical mandate on someone if that mandate has a negative impact on their health and well-being, or if it infringes on their moral, religious, or philosophical beliefs. From personal experience, we have noticed a significant decline in mental health and morale as a direct result of facial coverings. We are advocates for mental health, so this is very concerning to us.

Therefore, we fully support an employee's right to opt out of masks, facial coverings, and other medical choices based on medical, religious, philosophical, or moral concerns. We know that humans are individuals with individual needs, and we believe those needs should be respected.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Tara Dukart
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