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Sent: Tuesday, February 23, 2021 11:31 PM
To: Labor & Industry Committee
Subject: Testimony for hearing

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The committee name the testimony is intended for (The House Labor & Industry Committee)

The date of the hearing (February 25th 2021)

Please accept this as my testimony for the hearing. On January 13 my employer informed us in writing that she was trying to procure Covid-19 vaccines for all staff. We were told not to contact any vaccine centers directly as they would be lining up the vaccines. We were told that the vaccine would be a requirement to continue employment. Also we were told we should have a medical doctor provide documentation if there was a medical reason why we could not be vaccinated. On January 15 we received another email saying that we had until January 20 to fill out an online survey for Sadler Health to get the vaccine. We were reminded that this was necessary to continue our employment. We were also being given priority to get the shot earlier than others because we were in the healthcare field. We do work as a day program for people with disabilities, however, we have always been told that our job title was officially "farmworker".

I was very concerned about the safety of the Covid vaccine and I contacted my doctor. She agreed to send a letter to my employer. On Jan 20 I inquired by email about whether they had received my doctor's note. This was the email response from my employer:
Hi Jenn-

I received the fax from your doctor's office and I have contacted them to ask some follow up questions. Based on what I currently have received, this does not meet the criteria of medical documentation excluding you from being a potential candidate for the vaccine. The note says you are "uncomfortable receiving the vaccine" which does not suffice for medical documentation. It also notes that you are diabetic, which actually puts you at the front of the line as a candidate to receive a vaccine. It is documented by the CDC and Department of Health that those with diabetes are at a higher risk of complications due to COVID-19, which is all the more reason it would be important for you to be vaccinated to protect yourself.

Unless or until I receive information from your doctor that is sufficient to document an actual medical diagnosis to support excluding you from the vaccine, this letter is denied as documentation.

This was my reply on January 20:

I have poured my whole heart into this job. I love the farm, the participants and the employees...As a Christian, as a diabetic and as a wife and mother I must do what I feel in my heart is right. 51% of the country does not want the vaccine. It is a rushed vaccine that is nick named Operation Warp Speed. Vaccinations usually take years and years of research and trials before being approved. I have to follow my heart even if it is not what is popular. There are healthy adults that have died shortly after getting this vaccine. M-RNA is a very new technology. I do not feel comfortable being a guinea pig for big pharm and tech companies. I believe as a diabetic I may be making myself more susceptible to chronic illnesses in the future. I do not take the

flu shot either because it is full of things i am not ok with putting into my body. Aborted babies are used in vaccines and vaccine research. I am sorry but I can't in good conscience take this vaccine. I am available for work and want to keep working for the *** ***** ****. I love my job. I hope that you will make accommodation for me to continue employment as we are still required to wear masks and social distance. Thank you for your time.

Jennifer Kerns
Farm Associate

It should be noted that my employer asked my doctor several questions that were in fact a violation of my HIPPA rights. My doctor declined to answer any further questions to my boss without my permission.

I then had a zoom doctors appointment and spoke with my doctor directly. She talked about the benefits and risks of the Covid-19 vaccine. She reiterated that although she recommends the vaccine, it is my right as a patient to refuse any treatment I am uncomfortable with. She said that with my permission she would send my employer another email to try to help me.

On January 21 I was issued an email that stated that I was being put under a 30 day unpaid suspension due to insubordination for not taking the Covid-19 vaccine. It stated that I had until February 24 at 4 p.m. to comply or I would be terminated. I was also told that we would NOT be eligible for unemployment during the suspension. So they were basically trying to withhold monetary compensation in order to force compliance with the vaccination.

I immediately replied that I was not in insubordination but in fact feared for my life.

On January 28 I contacted my employer to see if she had received my second doctor's note to excuse me from the vaccine. This was the emailed response:

Hi Jenn,

I did receive a letter from your doctor, however, it does not meet the criteria to exclude you from receiving the vaccine. In fact, your doctor recommends you receive the vaccine, but noted that you declined.

Your W2 was mailed to you yesterday- you should receive it soon.

My doctor also said that she respected my right to make an informed decision and stated how this was contributing to my anxiety. However, my employer does not respect my rights to decide and seems to know more than my physician on this matter!

I sent a reply email to my employer as follows:

Dear ****,

Even healthcare workers in hospitals have the right to choose whether they want to take the vaccine. My doctor supports my right as a human to choose what I put in my body. These vaccines are passed as Emergency Use with experimental technology in them. They are not FDA approved yet and I do not want to be a guinea pig for big pharma. I support the right for all humans to make informed decisions on what they put in their bodies. As a christian I am not comfortable with having MRNA or nano particles introduced into my body. No one should be forced to take an experimental drug against their will.

To which she responded:

Jenn,

I've explained our policy to you several times. Please reference the letter I sent on 1/21/2021. If you have other medical documentation to provide to me, please let me know.

Things that I think that are important for you to know...We have been off work at the farm since November 23 because of high covid numbers in our area. At the time this was happening we were doing classes through zoom and did not have direct contact with the participants at all. Why the rush to get us vaccinated so quickly? We were still not back to work. We were still going to be required to follow masking and social distancing when we returned. Why couldn't reasonable accommodations be made for those of us that did not want the vaccine but would be willing to continue masking? You can still spread Covid even after you get

the vaccine which is why they want you to continue masking! Why dont I have a choice in the matter? I was unemployed from November 23 until just recently and still have yet to receive unemployment or pandemic unemployment for any of those weeks. I have tried repeatedly to get through and get answer but I cant. I do not think it is lawful for her to say I cant get unemployment during the suspension for not getting the vaccine. Several of the women at my farm are of childbearing age and were very concerned about the Covid vaccine because it can hurt fertility. Despite these concerns they were told they had to get the vaccine anyway or lose their job. One woman felt so concerned about this that she resigned. Is it fair to have to choose between having a family or having employment? What gives the employer the right to play God with our future? I provided two doctors notes and was told they weren't good enough. I had my HIPAA rights violated by my employer. I am currently serving a wrongful 30 day suspension and am due to be fired on February 24 by 4 pm. I am a Christian and I also object to this vaccine on that basis as well. I was told that wasn't good enough. I was labled as insubordinate, not because I am a bad employee but because I feared taking an experimental vaccine.

I object to having an experimental vaccine forced upon me by my employer or any other person. As an American citizen, and as a citizen of humanity I have a right to decide what I think is safe to put in my body. The Nuremberg Code gives us rights when it comes to experimental procedures on humans. I believe we are in the middle of one of the biggest human experiments of all times. We are the guinea pigs getting the "numbers" for the pharmaceutical companies. We are tbe case studies. They do not care if we live or die as long as we try their vaccine. We are slowly having our rights stripped away from us. I stand for all the people at the farm who are losing their jobs. I stand for the ones that got the vaccine because they needed the money and couldn't quit. I stand for our children who should not be subjected to this experiment in the future. I stand for the little guys who have no money in this but are being asked to risk their lives for those that do.

Please help us to bring justice to this situation. As I lose my job today please do not let it be in vain. If anything I should be compensated by my employer for the pain, suffering and anxiety this has caused me. I love my job and the people that I work with on an everyday basis but unfortunately upper management has decided that they know what is best for all of us. They have decided that we are no longer in control of our bodies or our health. Please help us to ensure that humans still have their rights! I am not an experiment. I reject the Covid Vaccine experiment. Please continue to fight for the rights of the little guy. Thank you for your time. (I have all of the original emails)

Jennifer Kerns