

To: Representative Cox

From: Noaimai Pannah

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**'Labor and Industry Committee Hearing: February 25, 2021'**

I am writing this letter to appeal to the House Labor and Industry Committee to prohibit employers from mandating the COVID vaccine or other adult vaccines for their employees. Please support HB262, THE RIGHT TO REFUSE ACT. I support this bill because it is the right thing to do. As British writer G.K. Chesterton noted on his first visit to our shores in 1921, 'America is the only nation in the world that is founded on a creed.' That creed is contained in five words enshrined in our Declaration of Independence: 'All men are created equal.' Because we are all "created equal", none of us has the right or the capacity to rule another.

In regards to the current COVID-19 vaccines, research shows they do not impart immunity or inhibit transmissibility of the disease. They are not designed to keep you from getting sick with SARS-CoV-2, they if most lessen your infection symptoms if or when you get infected. As such, these products do not meet the medical definition of a vaccine. As of February 4, 2021, the U.S. Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS) has received 12,697 injury reports following COVID-19 vaccination and 653 deaths. (1) These staggering numbers are most likely higher primarily because VAERS reporting is voluntary and many do not know it exists or that you do not have to be a medical professional to file a report. According to a U.S. Department of Health and Human Services study (2), less than 1% of vaccine adverse events are ever reported to VAERS.

No one is talking about the affects these vaccines can and do have on people. We are so focused on getting people vaccinated even if it could possibly compromise their health and life. While I am not against vaccinations, I do believe that the gene therapies for this virus are in their premature stages and more research in its efficacy and safety needs to be performed before mandating that every individual has to get vaccinated. It is also disheartening to know that your livelihood and employment could be threatened if you refuse to get vaccinated. Who protects those who get adverse reactions to these vaccines? Who protects those who die as a result of getting vaccinated? Who protects those who will lose their jobs if they do not comply with their employer to get vaccinated? In my final words, I would like to say that there has to be a better way and by approving THE RIGHT TO REFUSE ACT, we can protect the vulnerable and allow the freedom of choice to take precedence.

Respectfully,

Noaimai Pannah

References:

1. The Defender February 12, 2021
2. AHRQ Electronic Support for Public Health – VAERS (PDF), Page 6, Results