

Re: Testimony letter hearing May 12<sup>th</sup> 2021, 1:30 Hearing on Bill HB21-1191

**Dear Chris Kennedy, Karen McCormick, David Ortiz, Brianna Titone, and Dominique Jackson.**

I am a registered Democrat, and I strongly support HB21-1191. I find it notable that this bill is sponsored only by Republicans. This bill is humane and represents the values of the Democratic party: equal treatment and inclusion. Furthermore, the bill just makes sense.

With the sustained pressure from media and officials to take this vaccine, as well as the threat of mandates by both universities, event coordinators, and employers, we are seeing the devolving of our society into yet another category of discrimination: the vaccinated and the unvaccinated. This development is very disturbing to people like me who have made the choice not to accept this experimental vaccine. We find it distasteful and threatening to be rendered second-class citizens for any reason whatsoever.

Many have already had COVID-19, including myself. Those of us who have had COVID do not need the vaccine and taking it could cause 2 - 3 times greater adverse reactions, according to research in Manchester, England, [according to Dr. McCullough](#). Many young people of college age, as well as older adults, have survived COVID-19 with no ill effects. In fact, antibody testing has shown that the majority of people have mild or no symptoms and that [overall deaths are deemed to be about 0.2 percent for populations worldwide](#).

Whether or not the vaccine is contraindicated for any reason, we do not need a system in which people are pressured, and indeed coerced, to take it simply to live a normal life. I hope you will agree with me that discrimination for any reason should not be part of our culture.

I have spoken with students and older adults who don't want to get the vaccine, but feel that if they don't, they won't have a future--no school, no job, no travel. This coercion is in violation of both U.S. law and international law.

Historically, Democrats support equal opportunity for all and nondiscrimination, so let's not drop the ball now.

**I am asking you to use your power as a legislator to assure that mandates and any equivalent of vaccine passports are banned in Colorado.** We need some Democrats sponsoring HB21-1191 to show bipartisan support for a humane and free Colorado. I urge you to support this bill or take leadership on another bill to make sure that no entity, public or private or commercial, is able to coerce any person to get a vaccine in order to study, to have a job, or simply to participate in society.

Please let me know how you stand HB21-1191.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jane Rivera



House Health & Insurance Committee Hearing  
SB21-1191 Prohibit Discrimination COVID-19 Vaccine Status  
Wednesday, May 12, 2021

Chairperson Lontine and distinguished members of the Committee; my name is Ingrid Moore, from Longmont. I'm a concerned citizen writing on my own behalf **in opposition to** House Bill 21-1191.

I strongly oppose this bill and urge all members of the committee to vote No.

I will get right to the point: This bill should be called "The Lawsuit Protection Act", or "The Permanent Pandemic Protection Act." COVID-19 is a dangerous disease for many, and it is still a pandemic. The COVID vaccine has become politicized, and this bill is the embodiment of that. We should be operating according to the best scientific information, not an irrational political litmus test!

No person has an inherent RIGHT to endanger others by purposely remaining unvaccinated while insisting on interacting with the public. If their job, membership, or any other activity requires a person be vaccinated in order to participate, that should be the decision of the entity. Defiance of this policy should not be rewarded. If people don't want to be vaccinated, they can go somewhere else where they won't endanger others.

This bill will deny almost any business, group, facility, or government entity at any level, the right to operate in a way they believe is critical to safeguarding customers, patrons, members, or constituents. Private entities should be able to require masks or vaccinations if that is, in their judgement, in their best interest.

How will this bill address airlines operating in Colorado that require proof of vaccination or negative tests? What about travel to other countries that require vaccinations? What about elder care, hospitals, doctors' offices – where we all want to protect the vulnerable?

The other part of this bill is that it will expose nearly all of society to needless, frivolous, self-serving lawsuits. The courts will be clogged. In addition, I believe it will be ruled unconstitutional when it gets challenged in court.

The federal government has avoided making vaccines mandatory to respect personal choice or medical issues. It likewise is not the role of our state government to prevent efforts to act safely.

This will only make things worse.

Thank you for your time and attention.'

Ingrid Moore  
Longmont, Colorado  
12 May, 2021

# HB21 – 1191 Testimony

By Katy LeVasseur

Hello, my name is Katy LeVasseur and I represent myself and my family. I am testifying in strong support of HB 1191.

As you know, we are all different people with different bodies and genetics that react differently to certain exposures. One-size-fits-all pharmaceutical products will cause harm with many. In fact, this Covid vaccine roll out already has. Here are the latest VAERS numbers:






National Vaccine  
Information Center  
Your Health. Your Family. Your Choice.

## Search Results

From the 4/30/2021 release of VAERS data:

**Found 157,277 cases where Vaccine is COVID19**

Table

 Event Outcome	 Count	 Percent
Death	3,837	2.44%
Permanent Disability	2,277	1.45%
Office Visit	26,045	16.56%
Emergency Room	34	0.02%
Emergency Doctor/Room	21,589	13.73%
Hospitalized	10,684	6.79%
Hospitalized, Prolonged	31	0.02%
Recovered	58,915	37.46%
Birth Defect	103	0.07%
Life Threatening	3,282	2.09%
Not Serious	61,640	39.19%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>† 188,437</b>	<b>† 119.81%</b>

† Because some cases have multiple vaccinations and symptoms, a single case can account for multiple entries in this table. This is the reason why the Total Count is greater than 157277 (the number of cases found), and the Total Percentage is greater than 100.

A good comparison is food allergies. Consider having mandates or a passport for peanut consumption. Those who choose not to consume peanuts (because it would be harmful to them or their children) being kept from sporting events, public transportation, flying, school, or even their job.

HB 1191 would prevent this discrimination from happening when it comes to the Covid-19 vaccines. If mandates/vaccine passports for the Covid-19 vaccines were allowed to occur in Colorado, how far would that go? It would be quite reminiscent of the awful segregation/discrimination in America's history: separate seating on public transportation, separate drinking fountains, not being allowed in certain places. Are you looking to form a 2-class society? Is that the Colorado/America you want? HB 1191 provides protections to keep this discrimination from happening.

Yes, Covid 19 has been and can be deadly for some. This is also true for other illnesses. Why haven't those illnesses sounded the alarm the way Covid has? Even though the harm from the illness does absolutely exist, its numbers have been portrayed out of proportion. These are the current active cases in the world. I have been watching these numbers for months and months, and those percentages have not changed. 99.4% mild and 0.6% critical:

**19,241,537**

Currently Infected Patients

**19,133,569 (99.4%)**

in Mild Condition

**107,968 (0.6%)**

Serious or Critical

These numbers were obtained from here:

<https://www.worldometers.info/coronavirus/> (click on active cases). In case you are wondering about this source:

## **What are the sources for the coronavirus COVID-19 numbers?**

Official reports, directly from **Government's communication channels** or indirectly, through local media sources when deemed reliable. We provide the source of each data update in the "Latest Updates" (News) section. Timely updates are made possible thanks to the participation of users around the world and to the dedication of a team of analysts and researchers who validate data from an ever-growing list of over 5,000 sources. [Learn more](#)

**Worldometer's Covid-19 data is trusted and used by [Johns Hopkins CSSE](#), [Financial Times](#), [The New York Times](#), [Business Insider](#)**, and many others.

Over the past 15 years, our statistics have been trusted by: **Oxford University Press, Wiley, Pearson, CERN, World Wide Web Consortium (W3C), The Atlantic, BBC, Milton J. Rubenstein Museum of Science & Technology, Science Museum of Virginia, Morgan Stanley, IBM, Hewlett Packard, Dell, Kaspersky, PricewaterhouseCoopers, Amazon Alexa, Google Translate, United Nations Rio+20.** and many others.

The federal government is spending billions on a marketing campaign for the Covid vaccines. Without a bill like HB 1191, I'm sure many coercion tactics of removing basic societal rights for the unvaccinated are being/will be planned. You have to ask yourself, if a product is so great, why does it require billions spent and discriminatory coercive tactics?

The vaccines are available, many have chosen to take them. Just let it remain a choice. Protect that choice. Vote yes on HB 1191. Thank you.

## Written Testimony in favor of HB21-1191

I have been a resident of Colorado in the County of Arapahoe and the City of Aurora since 1992, with few exceptions.

It is greatly disturbing to me that a bill preventing discrimination against an individual's freedom of choice for him/herself to decide what is best regarding his/her own health has had to be introduced.

It is greatly disturbing to me that a "State of Emergency" can be declared by a lone individual – the governor.

It is greatly disturbing to me that tyrannical, oppressive, unlawful, and unconstitutional lockdowns and mandates can be imposed on the citizenry without any representation, without any legislation, and without any scientific basis.

It is greatly disturbing to me that my rights and freedoms can be stripped away by one, and only one, individual without so much as a peep from me. My individual rights and liberties were not given to me by the government, any individual within the government, and especially not Jared Polis. They were given to me by the Creator God. Therefore, they should not have been taken away by the government and certainly not by an individual dictator.

The General Assembly from whom the governor gets his authority represents the legislative body, not the citizens. Not even the legislative body can make laws that do away with our Constitutional Rights, nor can a declared state of emergency, yet that is exactly what happened.

Since when did we start living in a communist state? Since when was the freedom of choice stripped away from the individual and handed over to the government? Since when did the Colorado State government no longer become a representative government by the People, for the People, and of the People?

What happened to the "Golden Rule": Whoever has the gold makes the rules? Do not the taxpayers have the gold? Would not the government even be in existence if it were not for the taxpayers?

There has been no public testing of our immune systems and the efficacy they have in fighting the virus. In fact, I have not heard one single word about the immune system.

There are more dangers to wearing the face mask than to not wearing them (Retrieved from: <https://ratical.org/PandemicParallaxView/MasksAreHarmful-Meehan2020.html>)

## PAGE 2

For 5,000 years it was only the sick who were quarantined. Refer to the Book of Leviticus, which most scholars agree was written between 1440 and 1400 BC\*, for the origins of the quarantine. (Retrieved from: <https://www.gotquestions.org/Book-of-Leviticus.html>)

The vaccines are experimental and unapproved by the FDA.

None of this is about our health. If it were, the “science” for the tyrannical, oppressive, unlawful, and unconstitutional lockdowns and mandates would not vary. However, it has in the following ways:

- The virus only comes out after 10:00 PM, hence the curfew.
- When entering a restaurant, the virus can only be contagious from the entry point (the door) to the table.
- Riots were allowed to take place in downtown Denver without the “requirements” of face masks or anti-social distancing.
- Elites are, at will, exempt from these “requirements” that are imposed on the citizenry.
- Government “officials” and employees were able to maintain their jobs, their positions, their salaries, and their lifestyles, even during lockdown layover, while citizens lost not only their jobs, their positions, their salaries, their lifestyles, but in some cases, their families, and even their lives.
- Big box businesses were able to stay open, raking in millions, while small businesses and their owners were destroyed.
- Illegal aliens who have not been “tested” for COVID, who are not required to wear face masks or get the vaccine, who are packed in detention centers like sardines, are allowed unchecked into our country. This is an unadulterated assault on our southern border, on our country, on our state, and ultimately these people will be unleashed on our society.

Here are some examples of the current communist government by which I have already been discriminated against:

I was refused entry into the Arapahoe County Department of Motor Vehicles, located at 490 S Chambers Rd, Aurora, CO 80017 on August 7, 2020. This is a building for which I have paid maintenance with my taxes and which resulted in the denial of essential services to have my vehicle legally registered to enjoy life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. These services were PREPAID with my taxes; yet such essential services were refused me by the DMV employees for whose salaries I pay with my taxes.

### **PAGE 3**

This is in blatant violation of my inalienable right of enjoying and defending life and liberty, acquiring, possessing, and protecting property, and pursuing and obtaining safety, happiness, and privacy as defined under **Article 2, Section 3 of the Colorado State Constitution**.

My very own government - a government FOR WHICH AND FOR WHOM I PAY - discriminated against me using these tyrannical, oppressive, unlawful, and unconstitutional lockdowns and face-mask mandates for not wearing a face mask even though my religious beliefs expressly prohibit the wearing thereof.

This is a flagrant violation of my right to the free exercise and enjoyment of religious expression without discrimination as defined in the **Colorado Constitution, Article 2, Section 4**.

My very own government - a government FOR WHICH AND FOR WHOM I PAY – further discriminated against me using these tyrannical, oppressive, unlawful, and unconstitutional lockdowns and face-mask mandates as defined in the **Colorado Constitution, Article 2, Section 10**, which states:

Every person may freely speak. A law may not restrain or abridge livery of speech. Muzzling one's face with a mask does not allow for one to freely speak, and it abridges freedom of speech.

Therefore, mandating a person to wear a mask under any circumstance is a violation of the Colorado Constitution.

Furthermore, I have been discriminated against using these tyrannical, oppressive, unlawful, and unconstitutional lockdowns and face-mask mandates for not wearing a face mask by places of “public accommodation” as defined in **Colorado Civil Code 24-36-601 1: Free and Equal Access to Public Accommodation**.

Further being discriminated against, I was issued a trespass charge, which may have been legal on its face had it not directly resulted from the tyrannical, oppressive, unlawful, and unconstitutional mandates; mandates that were ***enforced, without hesitation***, by the Aurora Police Department. **SIX** police officers, to be exact, for whom I pay salaries with my taxes. **SIX** police officers who simultaneously REFUSED to enforce the actual law the place of public accommodation violated. **SIX** police officers who obviously didn't have anything better to do, like stop real criminals from committing real crimes.

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These are not the actions of the police. These are not actions of those who took the Oath to “protect and serve” and who swore to uphold the United States and the Colorado Constitutions. These are the actions of fascists, of Nazis, and of the Gestapo.

In summary, the State of Colorado has brazenly violated its own Constitution, but, somehow, I am expected to obey tyrannical, oppressive, unlawful, and unconstitutional lockdowns and mandates. I am expected to obey a dictator who has abused the power entrusted to him by the very citizenry he represents; a dictator who has wantonly betrayed that trust. Please explain to me how I am supposed to obey **ANY** law now that the government has selectively disregarded its own.

As if this were not bad enough, now the tyrannical, oppressive government wants to oppress me even more by mandating an experimental and unapproved vaccine so it can further discriminate against me. It wants to continue treading on me and my individual rights and freedoms. Unconscionable! Exactly who do these government “officials” and employees think they are? The Almighty God?

All the above experiences by a citizen of this state are reprehensible. They are yet another audacious violation of the Oath of Office these “officials” took when they were elected – IN GOOD FAITH - to their respective Offices. Therefore, please consider this my written testimony IN FAVOR OF this bill.

Thank you,

Terrie Freeman



COLORADO ACADEMY OF  
FAMILY PHYSICIANS  
**STRONG MEDICINE FOR COLORADO**

Thursday, May 6th, 2021

Members of the House Health and Insurance Committee:

My name is Aaron M. Shupp, MD, FAAFP, and I am a family physician in Westminster, Colorado. I am submitting written testimony on behalf of the Colorado Academy of Family Physicians in opposition of HB21-1191 "Prohibit Discrimination COVID-19 Vaccine Status" because the intent of this bill contradicts current public health goals and utilizes misinformation and inflammatory language to discourage Coloradans from receiving appropriate medical care.

As a Family Physician, I have operated a COVID-19 outpatient testing and treatment clinic since February of 2020. It has been heartbreaking to watch a number of my patients and their family members fall ill and die of COVID-19. A particular case still haunts me today and has inspired me to write this testimony.

A healthy patient of mine presented for a routine wellness visit in early 2021 and was eligible for a COVID-19 vaccination. I recommended he get the vaccine as soon as possible; nevertheless, he declined citing false information and conspiracy theories that he had found online. I tried to address his concerns and provide him with recommendations from both Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. He refused to accept my advice and chose to attend a large family gathering with his elderly parents. Soon after his family event, he became ill with viral cold symptoms and tested positive for COVID-19. As he was recovering at home, his father became ill with COVID-19 and died. My patient and his family were devastated, as was I that I was unable to provide enough guidance for my patient to make a better informed decision about his health and how his choices might impact his family and community.

Cases like the one I have described are all too common. Here in Colorado and across the nation there are millions of vulnerable patients that fear vaccines including those for COVID-19 and choose not to get vaccinated due to misinformation propagated throughout the internet and other media sources. HB21-1191 "Prohibit Discrimination COVID-19 Vaccine Status" attempts to codify false and misleading information about COVID-19 vaccines into Colorado law. The use of the words such as "discrimination," "medical experimentation" and "coercion" in the bill text



COLORADO ACADEMY OF  
FAMILY PHYSICIANS  
**STRONG MEDICINE FOR COLORADO**

are intentionally used to stoke fear, especially in communities of color that have been disproportionately impacted by the pandemic, with cases, hospitalization and deaths up to six times higher than in white populations.

Furthermore, the intent of the HB21-1191 contradicts current public health goals. Right now, we should do all we can to instill confidence and trust in the COVID-19 vaccines and work to make them available to all those who want them. The pandemic has proven that our public health response requires flexibility and therefore should not be limited by pre-emptive, premature and harmful legislation, which is not supported by science.

Vaccines have shown *such* immense benefit to society that vaccine requirements in childcare centers, schools and some workplace settings such as hospitals, have been in use for over a century in the United States and the authority of states to require vaccination has been affirmed by the U.S. Supreme Court. Colorado, along with 17 other states, have utilized this power by requiring annual influenza vaccination for healthcare workers, which helps protect patients and the broader community. HB21-1191 contradicts this state power to protect public health.

In summary, vaccines represent our best hope to end the pandemic, and the Academy believes it is critical we focus on increasing vaccine access, supply, and acceptance across our state to save lives. Thank you for opposing HB21-1191.

Sincerely,

Aaron M. Shupp, MD, FAAFP  
Westminster, Colorado



May 12, 2021

Testimony in opposition to HB21-1191

Dear Chair Lontine and members of the House Health and Insurance Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony in opposition to HB21-1191. LeadingAge Colorado is a statewide trade association representing the continuum of senior living and care providers including nursing homes, assisted living, independent living and affordable senior housing, adult day services centers and the Programs of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE). We are very concerned about the provisions in the bill that prohibit health care facilities from requiring employees to receive a COVID-19 vaccine.

Currently health care facilities have the flexibility to respond to pandemics like COVID-19 to keep residents, visitors, and staff safe by requiring employees to get vaccinated. If passed, HB21-1191 would eliminate this flexibility.

The COVID-19 virus disproportionately impacts older adults, especially those living and receiving care in residential care facilities such as nursing homes and assisted living residences. As a result, after the Emergency Use Approval of the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines in late 2020, the federal and state government prioritized residents and staff of these facilities to receive the vaccine. The vaccine has reduced deaths, hospitalizations, and outbreaks in Colorado's residential care facilities and allowed for indoor visitations from family members and friends.

Vaccine hesitancy has been low among residents (approximately 89 percent vaccinated), but staff are more hesitant to get immunized (approximately 66 percent vaccinated). Facilities have and will continue to work hard through education, individual conversations, and small group meetings to overcome hesitancy among staff. However, some residential care facilities have chosen to require the vaccine as a condition of employment to keep those they serve safe. We are asking that you continue to allow for this choice and oppose HB21-1191.

Again, thank you for your consideration of our concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "DLively", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Deborah Lively  
Director of Public Policy and Public Affairs  
LeadingAge Colorado

## **My thoughts on HB 21-1191**

I am a 26-year resident of Colorado and have owned my home in Denver for 22 years. I am a semi-retired Remote Sensing and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Analyst with a Masters Degree from the University of Massachusetts. I am registered as an Unaffiliated voter. I am also an independent thinker, capable of making my own decisions. In my experience, it takes a great deal of courage to challenge the status quo or the prevailing beliefs.

Last July 2020, months before vaccines were available, my mother contracted COVID-19 in a nursing home in Massachusetts, was isolated, given no anti-viral drugs for treatment, and died less than two weeks later. Only one family member was able to attend her graveside service.

I admit that I am new to this vaccination mandate controversy. Back in March, when vaccines for COVID were starting to be made available to older age groups, I decided to research the issue so that I could make a more informed decision for myself. Initially I found pretty consistent information on the CDC, FDA, NIH, and CO state and CDPHE websites, as well as the major news networks. But as I dug deeper, I was astonished at what I found.

All people, regardless of sex, race, religion, national origin, education level, or economic status, should be able to make informed decisions about their health care. Yet all the risks of the COVID-19 vaccines are not being made available to Colorado's citizens. We are told that everyone needs to get the shot to establish "herd immunity" in the population. But the data show that these vaccines do not prevent us from contracting the Corona virus, nor do they prevent us from transmitting the virus. Yet we are supposed to get the shot anyway.

The real risks of these vaccines have been grossly under-reported in CDC's Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS), and are still being discovered over time. Because of that, people have not been receiving all the information they need to make an informed decision about vaccination. I know more than the average person because I spent countless hours searching for information. But those who are working full-time, raising children, homeless, disabled, and others may not have that advantage -- they are not receiving adequate information. They do not have the time to go digging; they may not even have internet access. Instead they are being encouraged, coerced, even paid with money or other bonuses to get vaccinated.

In addition, the death rate for COVID-19 is exceedingly low, even for the elderly. Effective, safe, and low-cost treatments for Corona virus exist, but their use is discouraged, even prevented, from being used. Why is this? Instead, a long-term, annual or semi-annual vaccine booster program is being rolled out, with no end in sight.

Some people would prefer not to get vaccinated for a myriad of reasons, including direct experience with someone who was harmed by vaccination, religious or conscientious objections, or medical conditions that would put them at risk for anaphylactic shock or other harm, including death, or long-term auto-immune diseases. Furthermore, those who have already survived the Corona virus have natural

immunity. Some experts have warned against their getting vaccinated, as this could cause an auto-immune disease in these individuals.

Should those not vaccinated for any of the above reasons be prevented from access to schools, businesses, or public places? I think not, as this would be a violation of their basic human rights. Please put the rights of every Colorado citizen ahead of the profit motives of the large pharmaceutical companies, and vote YES on HB 21-1191.

Thank you!

Sheila Pelczarski  
Denver, CO 80211

## **Testimony on HB 21-1191 (Prohibit Discrimination COVID-19)**

Chairperson Lontine and distinguished members of the Committee, my name is Stan Gelb, from Longmont, CO. I am a concerned citizen writing on my own behalf **in opposition** to HB 21-1191.

The very title of this bill is a lie. This bill has nothing to do with discrimination. This bill is a weakly disguised attempt to grant special privileges to the ignorant and/or uncaring people who are now refusing to act responsibly in getting vaccinated. COVID continues to sicken and kill throughout America and the world. These ignorant and/or uncaring people are choosing to selfishly put at risk the health and well-being of themselves, their families, and our entire community, state, and nation.

If these ignorant and/or uncaring people choose to make such irresponsible choices, they must not be rewarded by giving them legal rights to infect others who are acting responsibly. If enacted, HB 21-1191 has the potential to put all of us in a condition of being trapped in a permanent pandemic! A PERMANENT PANDEMIC!

If people are choosing to not get vaccinated, they must go to where they will not endanger others. If enacted, HB 21-119 would give more rights to irresponsible people than to the caring people who are now doing everything reasonably possible to end the pandemic.

I urge you to vote NO on HB 21-1191.

Stan Gelb



**COLORADO CATHOLIC CONFERENCE**

1535 Logan Street | Denver, CO 80203-1913  
303-894-8808 | cocatholicconference.org

2021 May 12

Thank you, Madame Chair, and thank you members of the House Health & Insurance committee.

My name is Brittany Vessely. I am the executive director of the Colorado Catholic Conference, which is the united voice of the four Catholic bishops of Colorado in public policy. I am submitting testimony this afternoon **in support of HB 1191**.

The Catholic Church supports the use of ethically developed vaccines to protect the public health from dangerous, often deadly diseases. Colorado Catholic Bishops have recognized the incredible potential of the COVID-19 vaccines to eliminate suffering and potentially lead to an end to the current health crisis<sup>1</sup>. However, the Colorado Catholic Conference opposes any effort to make receiving the COVID-19 vaccination mandatory under threat of financial punishment or loss of employment.

Because of the multitude of moral and personal factors that an individual must consider when they decide whether to receive the COVID-19 vaccine, that decision must be made by the individual based on their well-founded convictions, free from the coercion of private or public entities.

In March, the Colorado bishops offered two letters to Catholics in our state regarding the moral considerations of currently available vaccines. Due to the use of an aborted fetal cell line in different stages of creation, all of the available COVID-19 vaccines were touched by abortion.

Considering the health crisis, the Colorado Bishops provided guidance on which vaccines are morally acceptable to receive. However, they reinforced that if individuals have serious moral objections or health concerns about any vaccines, those concerns should be respected by society and government, and those individuals should not be forced into vaccination, contrary to their conscience.

The state legislature should act to protect the right of an individual to make that decision on their own. No Coloradan should not be forced to decide between employment that provides for their family and taking a vaccine that they consider morally compromised. HB 1191 ensures that individuals can choose whether or not to be vaccinated, free from outside compulsion.

We respectfully ask for a “yes” vote on HB 1191.

Sincerely,

Brittany Vessely

Executive Director, Colorado Catholic Conference

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<sup>1</sup> A LETTER TO THE FAITHFUL FROM THE COLORADO BISHOPS ON COVID-19 VACCINES,  
<https://www.cocatholicconference.org/a-letter-to-the-faithful-from-the-colorado-bishops-on-covid-19-vaccines/>

Written Testimony as prepared for delivery in opposition to **HB21-1191 – Prohibit Discrimination COVID-19 Vaccine Status** (Rep. Ransom/Van Beber) to the House Health and Insurance Committee by Erica Manoatl, Manager of Research Initiatives at the Children’s Campaign

April 28th, 2021

- Thank you Madam Chair and members of the committee. My name is Erica Manoatl and I am the Manager of Research Initiatives at the Colorado Children’s Campaign. I appreciate the opportunity to submit written testimony on HB21-1191.
- The Children’s Campaign opposes this bill. Immunization requirements serve as an important public health tool to protect Colorado’s children from vaccine-preventable diseases, and are essential to ensuring the safety of child environments such as schools and child care centers.
- Controlling the spread of the COVID-19 virus in Colorado’s communities greatly impacts the health and wellbeing of our state’s children and families.
- The virus itself presents health risks to children, adults and pregnant people, especially those with relevant preexisting conditions, and immunization requirements are one tool that can help ensure these populations are protected from COVID-19 exposure.
- In addition, infection control measures including immunization requirements will help to end the many environmental disruptions of the COVID-19 pandemic that have negatively impacted Colorado’s children and families, including the closures of schools and child care centers, which serve as important sites of academic development and child wellbeing.
- The currently available COVID-19 vaccines have shown very promising safety and efficacy results, and research is underway investigating the safety and efficacy of the current vaccines in children.
- The future of the COVID-19 pandemic is unknown. Now that we have access to vaccines, we should not remove the state’s power to use immunization requirements as a tool for infection control.
- Thank you, and we ask that you vote no on HB21-1191.



Please Support House Bill 21-1191  
Paul Graumann to: committees.lcs.ga 05/11/2021 09:12 PM

All,

While I like to be reasonable, and I'm willing to get the new vaccines to help others feel more comfortable, it's patently wrong to force Americans into taking less than well tested drugs. Please protect our people from this wrong, having already endured plenty over the last year. Please Support House Bill 21-1191.



**COLORADO CATHOLIC CONFERENCE**

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303-894-8808 | cocatholicconference.org

2021 May 12

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The Catholic Church supports the use of ethically developed vaccines to protect the public health from dangerous, often deadly diseases. ~~Furthermore,~~ Colorado Catholic Bishops have recognized the incredible potential of the COVID-19 vaccines to eliminate suffering and potentially lead to an end to the current health crisis<sup>1</sup>. However, the Colorado Catholic Conference opposes any effort to make receiving the COVID-19 vaccination mandatory under threat of financial punishment or loss of employment.

Because of the multitude of moral and personal factors that an individual must consider when they decide whether to receive the COVID-19 vaccine, that decision must be made by the individual based on their ~~personal beliefs~~ well-founded convictions, free from the coercion of private or public entities.

~~In March, the~~ Of primary concern with the COVID-19 vaccines is the morality of its development due to use of abortion-derived cell lines in various stages of its creation. Colorado bishops offered two letters to Catholics in our state regarding the moral considerations of currently available vaccines. D Due to the use of an aborted fetal cell line in different stages of ~~development~~ creation, all of the available COVID-19 vaccines were touched by ~~abortion~~ abortion and therefore, to varying degrees, morally compromised.

Considering the health crisis, ~~While~~ the Colorado Bishops ~~have~~ provided guidance on which vaccines are morally acceptable to receive. However, they, ultimately, reinforced that if individuals have serious moral objections or health concerns about any vaccines, those concerns should be respected by society and government, and those individuals should not be forced into vaccination, contrary to their conscience. it is the individual who must decide whether the connection between the vaccines and aborted fetal cell lines violates their well-founded convictions.

The state legislature should act to protect the right of an individual to make that decision on their own, ~~without coercion from a public or private entity.~~ An No Coloradan individual should not be forced to decide between keeping their job employment that provides for their family and taking a vaccine that they consider morally compromised.

The Catholic Church does not require nor forbid reception of a vaccination, but rather “urges people to discern what decision to make after having carefully formed their consciences about the moral and prudential issues surrounding the vaccines that become available.”<sup>2</sup> HB 1191 ensures that individuals can ~~make that choice~~ choose whether or not to be vaccinated, free from outside compulsion.

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<sup>1</sup> A LETTER TO THE FAITHFUL FROM THE COLORADO BISHOPS ON COVID-19 VACCINES, <https://www.cocatholicconference.org/a-letter-to-the-faithful-from-the-colorado-bishops-on-covid-19-vaccines/>  
<sup>2</sup> Point to Consider on the Use of COVID-19 Vaccines (December 8, 2020) The National Catholic Bioethics Center

We respectfully ask for a “yes” vote on HB 1191.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Brittany Vessely".

Brittany Vessely

Executive Director, Colorado Catholic Conference

- A yes vote does not “impose our ability to address public health crises.” We are discussing SARS-CoV2 infections not crises plural. This is one pathogen that comes with a plethora of injections with no long-term safety studies.
- “Medical and religious exemptions to the COVID-19 vaccine are already persevered under federal law should remain in place for employee protections.” We know that employers do not follow medical or non-medical exemptions in Colorado! In one sentence the claim is that exemptions are protected and in another sentence the claim is that T-DAP tests and Influenza vaccines are already required for healthcare workers, insinuating that it’s not a big deal to add another? Yet this fails to address that this bill doesn’t pertain to healthcare workers only, it would protect every worker in every industry from discrimination.
- Immuno-compromised and at-risk individuals have the right to refuse these shots and not be discriminated against no matter where they work. An immuno-compromised nurse has admitted that after her severe reaction to the first shot, her doctor opted to administer her with a simultaneous flu shot and pneumococcal pneumonia shot in place of her second Covid jab. This bill protects people like her.
- VAERS is not overinflated due to self-reporting. We have reliable and recent data from Harvard that

- VAERS is drastically under reported to and thus there are far fewer incidents we are aware of at all.
- With hundreds upon hundreds of break-through COVID infections being reported in spite of full vaccination, we can see clearly that these shots do not prevent infection. How can we discriminate against those who opt out of these shots because they know that there is a real chance they will still acquire a SARS-CoV2 infection in spite of taking the risks that come with the injections?
  - If there is data to support the claim that the estimated 15% of the U.S. population presently with immunity markers due to these shots, I would very much like to see it.
  - “This is not a choice between keeping a job and receiving an unwanted medical procedure, it’s a choice between retaining a job or potentially infecting hundreds of others with a deadly illness.” First of all, keeping and retaining mean the same thing. Second of all, we know this illness is deadly for some but not others. We also know that these shots are deadly. The Astra Zeneca shot has been banned in over 21 countries due to deaths from blood clot related side effects. But the most interesting part is that since these shots started to be administered in the U.S. in mid-December, there has been blood clot related side effects reported to VAERS for all 3 versions of shots available in this country, and little to nothing has been done to protect our citizens from blood clot related side

effects. We are forced to advocate for our own safety.

- If you fail to support this bill you must recognize how much of the Democratic Party you are failing. The black healthcare workers who have admitted that they took the shots out of bullying and coercion, the immuno-compromised nurse that admitted her doctor did not recommend getting the second dose after her severe adverse reaction, Theo Wilson and his over 72,000 followers on social media that are watching your actions on this bill very closely are mostly all Democrats. By failing to support this bill you are failing to protect black and other minority democrats from discrimination. If you fail to support this bill you will lose immeasurable support.

Written testimony in opposition of HB21-1191 for May 12, 2021

Thank you Chair and Committee Members.

My name is Aimee Bernard and I am representing myself and as a member of Colorado Parents for Vaccinated Communities. **I am asking you to vote 'NO' in opposition of HB21-1191.**

**I am a parent** of fully COVID vaccinated 16 year-old twins, I am fully vaccinated, and my husband, a pediatrician, is fully vaccinated.

**I am an educator** - an Assistant Professor of Immunology at the University of Colorado Anschutz medical campus.

**I am a scientist** - I've had a PhD in immunology for 20 years. I understand the complicated science behind vaccines and know that vaccines are safe and effective. There is absolutely no controversy about the safety and efficacy of vaccines in the scientific and medical communities. They work *with* our immune systems to keep us protected from deadly infectious diseases.

**As residents of Colorado**, we need to think of ourselves as an interconnected community of human beings who would like to see each other again at grocery stores, coffee shops, universities, medical clinics - all of the places we used to visit in our daily lives before the pandemic. **We need to understand that vaccination is a choice that affects all of us.** We need to think about the people in our community who need our protection to stay healthy - people undergoing chemotherapy, people who are immunocompromised and can't be vaccinated, babies and children too young for immunization against SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes the disease COVID-19, - we are all connected.

**HB21-1191 undermines Colorado's existing public health infrastructure**, which has been in place for decades to improve vaccination rates and protect communities from preventable disease. The penalties described in the bill would unfairly punish institutions that might use vaccine mandates to protect the health, wellbeing and safety of their employees and customers.

The language used throughout the bill is problematic, inflammatory and perpetuates disinformation. In addition, this bill is purposefully coercive and preys upon fear. This bill takes away the authority of institutions to use evidence-based steps for ensuring safety.

**Please join me in telling the state of Colorado that vaccines represent our best hope of ending the pandemic.** We need to preserve all legal tools – including the authority to issue vaccine requirements – to move forward out of this pandemic.

**In closing, I ask that you vote 'NO' to oppose HB21-1191**

Thank you!

Aimee Bernard

House Health & Insurance

HB21-1191 Prohibit Discrimination COVID-19 Vaccine Status

Typed Text of Testimony Submitted

Name, Position, Representing	Typed Text of Testimony
Carolyn Bninski  For  Self	<p>I urge you to support HB21-1191.</p> <p>The three COVID vaccines currently in use in the U.S. have been granted Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) by the FDA. None of them is licensed or approved. Federal law prohibits mandating receipt of a product that is only available pursuant to an EUA.</p> <p>Please see the following legal analysis laying out the reasons that, both under federal and international law, the experimental COVID vaccines cannot be mandated.</p> <p><a href="https://www.icandecide.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/University-of-Colorado-Letter_2021_05_04.pdf">https://www.icandecide.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/University-of-Colorado-Letter_2021_05_04.pdf</a></p> <hr/> <p>Here are a few brief sections:</p> <p>p. 3 Federal Law Prohibits Mandating Products Granted EUA (Emergency Use Authorization)</p> <p>Section 564 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (the “Act”) requires that the public have “the option to accept or refuse administration of the product.”..It even provides that the Secretary of HHS is to “ensure that individuals to whom the product is administered are informed” of “the option to accept or refuse administration of the product.” (Id.)</p> <p>p.5 The right to informed medical consent is considered a fundamental, overriding principle of medical ethics and international law, first laid down by United States government jurists in the Nuremberg Code. (“The voluntary consent of the human subject is absolutely essential. This means that the person...[is] able to exercise free power of choice, without the</p>

	<p>intervention of any element of...coercion.”); (Nuremberg Code was established in response to the Nazi medical experiments on prisoners).</p> <p>p.5 To the extent the university’s policy permits faculty, staff, and other individuals on campus to choose or refuse vaccination, but does not allow that same choice for students, this may raise equal protection issues.</p> <hr/> <p>Furthermore, COVID vaccine mandates are discriminatory against people of color who are more reluctant to get the vaccines because of medical experimentation on African-Americans in the past. Other groups are reluctant for cultural reasons.</p> <p>Vaccine mandates discriminate against millions of other Coloradans who have declined the vaccine for other reasons. These people are merely exercising their constitutional, statutory and international legal rights in declining the vaccine.</p> <p>This committee must ban all COVID vaccine mandates and prohibit discrimination on the basis of vaccine status.</p>
<p>Laura Lasater For Self</p>	<p>As a physician, I urge you to pass HB21-1191 which will prohibit discrimination based on COVID-19 vaccination status. It is imperative that people have the right to choose whether they want to receive these experimental, non-FDA approved vaccines that lack long-term safety data. In the last 5 months (between Dec. 14, 2020 and April 30, 2021), a total of 157,277 COVID-19 vaccine-related adverse events, including 3,837 death were reported to the VAERS database. These numbers are only the tip of the iceberg, as a 2010 Harvard study found only 1% of vaccine adverse effects are reported to VAERS. This certainly doesn't support claims that these vaccines are safe. Pregnant women weren't included in the vaccine</p>

	<p>clinical trials, yet they are being advised to get vaccinated in the absence of any safety data. These vaccines use a novel gene therapy that in previous coronavirus vaccine development attempts caused pathogenic priming and deaths in the animals when they were later exposed to the coronavirus. We don't know if this will happen in people. Per the CDC, the survival rate for people infected with SARS COV2 without treatment is 99.997% for those under 20, 99.98% for 20-49 yr olds and 99.5% for 50-69 yr olds. Our bodies are very capable of fighting this virus, unless we have other chronic diseases. In addition, there are highly effective, safe, inexpensive treatments for COVID-19, including: hydroxychloroquine, ivermectin, zinc, inhaled corticosteroids and zinc. The vaccines have not been shown to prevent transmission of the virus. Claims about their effectiveness refer only to their ability to reduce the severity of an infection, not to prevent one. They don't confer herd immunity. Without a compelling benefit and given the mounting numbers of reported adverse side effects, including death, people should not be mandated to get these vaccines.</p> <p>Requiring a vaccine passport to participate in employment, education or other usual activities would be coercive, illegal and immoral per the Emergency Use Authorization, Americans with Disabilities Act, and the Nuremberg Code of 1947. The recent executive order allowing people to take masks off if they can provide proof of vaccination is an ominous step in the direction of vaccine passports and must be addressed now. HB21-1191 is a critically important protection against discrimination with far-reaching implications and one of the most pivotal pieces of legislation you will ever vote on. I urge you to vote for it.</p>
<p>Monika Martick For Self</p>	<p>I request members of the House Health and Insurance Committee to support H.B.21-1191.</p> <p>I am a PhD scientist with 17 years of experience in Biochemistry, Virology and Molecular Diagnostics development. My scientific discoveries have contributed to COVID-19 drug development, and have been published in top scientific journals, including Science, Nature, and Cell. I have recently brought my expertise to Colorado to pursue innovation in molecular diagnostics.</p> <p>Over the past year, I have observed with horror how the government policy and public narrative regarding SARS-Cov-2 became detached from science. Because of this mercurial narrative shaped by main-stream media, popular opinion, financial interests of pharmaceutical companies, and other interests, we are now witnessing open disregard of basic human rights.</p>

	<p>A future where a person's employment is not based on expertise but on their medical record is a dark future, indeed. So is a future where an individual is forced or coerced to undergo a medical procedure in order to participate in all of society.</p> <p>The right of an employee or applicant to refuse COVID-19 vaccine injections must be protected. Individuals who refuse these medical procedures should not experience any repercussions from the employers or society at large. The decision to take a vaccine should always be a personal and private choice. Rights to bodily integrity and choice are basic human rights. If Colorado fails to protect these rights, I will consider moving my scientific expertise elsewhere.</p>
<p>Peggy O'Mara</p> <p>For Self</p>	<p>Thank you for bringing to committee, HB21-1191, which seeks to protect Coloradoans from discrimination based on their COVID-19 vaccine status. I appreciate this bill because I still have some questions about the COVID-19 vaccine and I need more time to make a decision.</p> <p>However, there seems to be no safe place for me to ask my questions without being labeled as hesitant, right wing, or downright un-American. Plus, family and friends regularly invade my privacy by asking about my vaccine status. It makes me want to lie, so it would help to know that I had some protection under the law.</p> <p>A study from Dartmouth University analyzed the tone of 43,000 English-language news articles about COVID-19 written since January 1, 2020, and found that 87% of stories by US major media outlets are negative in tone. In my opinion, the voices of the public health community and the biotechnology industry dominate the national conversation and legitimate questions about COVID-19 or the vaccine are ridiculed or suppressed.</p> <p>This undermines my right to informed consent. As you know, informed Consent is an ethical and legal doctrine that has developed over the last century in tandem with the growth of participatory medicine, and all 50 states, including Colorado, have legislation that delineates the required standards for informed consent.</p>

	<p>A physician is not justified in failing to inform the patient because the patient might decline a recommended treatment. In fact, the right to decline is the specific fundamental right protected by the doctrine of informed consent.</p> <p>I am glad that this bill is elevating the concerns of people of color, who have egregiously been denied informed consent in the past. Though I am not a person of color, I also have concerns about the experimental nature of the COVID-19 vaccines. As you know, these mRNA vaccines are the first of their kind to be approved for use on humans.</p> <p>Dear Committee Members, I appreciate that our country and the state of Colorado are both acting courageously to do the right thing. And, yet, we do not have all the answers. For example, the World Health Organization has said that, “The proportion of the population that must be vaccinated against COVID-19 to begin inducing herd immunity is not known.”</p> <p>In your deliberations, please consider to what extent government can impose a novel medical treatment on all citizens—without exceptions—before abuse of power undermines democracy. Thank you for listening.</p>
<p>Maria DeSimone For Self</p>	<p>To Whom It May Concern:</p> <p>I fully support bill HB21-1191 to prohibit the discrimination of individuals who have not received or agreed to the COVID vaccine. I do not support a vaccine mandate or passport of any kind based on the belief that our medical autonomy should always remain an individual's right! I live with a genetic blood condition and vascular issues that make it even more concerning to agree to vaccines that have been known to cause blood clots. The Johnson and Johnson COVID vaccine is not the only COVID vaccine known to cause blood clots, the Pfizer and Moderna injections do as well. Every COVID vaccine comes with a long list of known adverse reactions. It is unconscionable to force society to inject medicines that no one holds any liability to! To allow businesses to discriminate against those choosing not to agree to an experimental vaccine as well as those individuals with health conditions that prevent the ability to vaccinate is absolutely unacceptable! So long as there are risks associated to any medical treatment the right to choose without the threat of discrimination should always remain the individuals. The fact that the current COVID vaccines available can not prevent infection or the spread of COVID should be enough to prevent any</p>

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	<p>kind of mandate! Mandating vaccines before any long-term studies can be conducted is reckless! It should not be up to a politician or businesses to choose what is right for an individual's health this should always remain an individual's right! I do hope a yes vote is decided upon as it goes against everything the United States of America stands for, freedom! I appreciate your time and attention. Have a wonderful day. With Gratitude, Maria DeSimone</p>
<p>Jamie Barlow For Self</p>	<p>I am submitting this testimony because I feel that it is important for each person to make a decision for themselves regarding the Covid 19 vaccine without being discriminated against for their personal convictions. I want to live in a country that supports the rights of people to make their own decisions regarding what happens to their own body. All sides of this issue need to be heard so people can make an informed decision instead of a decision being made for them. I believe in Health Equity and Freedom! Thank you for your time.</p>
<p>Beth Utton Against Self</p>	<p>HB21-1191 is using the pretense of “discrimination” as a subterfuge to sabotage public health. It purports that individual “rights” are being violated by any requirement, no matter the context, to be vaccinated against Covid-19.</p> <p>It is not a right of an American citizen to knowingly expose others to harm. We are in a pandemic; the risks of exposure are well documented (heartbreakingly so) by the numbers of people who have died in the United States and around the world.</p> <p>Let us look at what it means to be an American citizen; it is not just about rights. It entails responsibilities and respect for the rights of fellow citizens. Citizens have duties and obligations, without which a democratic society cannot function.</p> <p>The Preamble to the Declaration of Independence states “that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of happiness.” Key words here are “ALL men”, “unalienable”, and the “right to life”. No individual citizen has the right to knowingly endanger the health (which is integral to life, liberty and happiness) of other citizens.</p> <p>Preventing and responding to infectious diseases is a prime mission of public health departments. Educating the citizenry of preventative steps is one of their key roles. By taking steps to protect the public health by</p>

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	<p>reducing exposure to Covid-19 through vaccination, employers are acting as responsible citizens. And for health facilities it is a duty.</p> <p>I urge you to vote NO on HB21-1191.</p>
<p>Jane Grogan For Self</p>	<p>I am a life-long democrat and I am also dedicated to Learning about natural and alternative health to stay healthy and prevent disease. The natural/alternative health doctors and scientists that I have learned from for over 15 years agree that vitamin D, C and Zinc supplementation are life saving for viral illnesses. They reduce death of COVID 19 by 85% when taken in high enough quantities. Additionally, there are additional allopathic medicines that treat the COVID 19 illness but their use has been suppressed in favor of an experimental vaccine. These are Budisonide, ivermectin, Chlorine dioxide, and hydroxychloroquine. Giving these safe and effective medicines and supplements Are available there is no need to mandate vaccines. Additionally, the vaccine need not be mandated as the vaccine does not protect against transmission of COVID 19 only disease severity. It will not have an impact on the spread of the disease.</p> <p>Too many people have been killed disabled and hurt by this COVID 19 vaccine in only 4 months time! The European Union’s vaccine injury reporting system had logged 330,218 adverse event reports, including 7,766 deaths, as of April 17, 2021, and the U.S. reporting system had logged 118,902 adverse event reports as of April 23, including 3,544 deaths and 12,618 serious injuries, yet all of these injuries and deaths are simply ignored and people are told to get the shot, no matter what. The reports of COVID 19 injuries and death are likely 10 times higher as most People do not report their injury. I personally have 4 friends who have had adverse reactions. One went to urgent care, One was very ill at home for 5 days, one went to the emergency room, and another had heart rate changes that required her to have a heart monitor at home for a week to evaluate her hearth rhythm. None of these friends of mine ever reported their injury even though I encouraged the to do so.</p> <p>Please don’t make people take an unsafe vaccine to earn their livelihood or go about their daily life.</p> <p>I say yes to HB21-1191 and I hope you do to. We must pass this Bill.</p>
<p>JULIE BORAKS For Self</p>	<p>Dear COMMITTEE MEMBERS,</p> <p>I am a pharmacist as well as a mother of two children; one in college and one in high school. I received my Pharm.D. from the University of Michigan and completed a Residency at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Maryland. I continued on as a Clinical Oncology Pharmacist for the National</p>

	<p>Cancer Institute at the NIH campus in Bethesda, Maryland, gaining valuable experience in the use of experimental therapies and cancer research for another 8 years. I was also promoted to the position of for the Head Protocol and Information Office, Cancer Therapy Evaluation Program, NCI, NIH. I am letting you know my background so that you understand my stance on experimental therapies is not emotional, but fact based.</p> <p>My family abides by the school mandatory vaccine schedule, but I will not allow my children to receive an experimental gene therapy injection which was given Emergency Use Authorization by the FDA less than one year from the first case of COVID in the USA. I am unwilling to risk any adverse effects (including death) from an experimental therapy when the survival rate for young people with no co-morbidities is at least 99.5%. Federal law states that no person shall be mandated to receive any treatment released by the FDA under EUA. I will fight for that right if my children or myself are subject to any mandatory EUA treatment.</p> <p>To ensure my family's rights are enshrined in the Colorado State law, please support the HB21-1911. This bill would establish, in Colorado state law, that no COVID-19 Vaccine shall be made mandatory in Colorado. Discrimination based on whether a person received the COVID-19 Vaccine by a government agency, commercial establishment, service provider or nonprofit organization would be prohibited. Children would not be required to receive a COVID-19 Vaccine unless the parent chooses to have the child receive the vaccine. Other ramifications, too numerous to list, are also on the table.</p> <p>The Federal law is very clear on FDA EUA therapies, however, the work/school environment in Colorado has forgotten the people's right to choose in this circumstance. Please stand up for the rights of Coloradans and make sure everyone, including our state government, is reminded of the EUA stipulations. The only way to do this effectively is to incorporate the wording into the Colorado statute.</p> <p>It's the law.</p> <p>Thank you for your time and consideration,</p> <p>Julie Boraks, Pharm.D.</p>
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	Littleton, CO 80127
<p>Invisible People</p> <p>For</p> <p>Human Rights and Civil Liberties</p>	<p>HB21-1191—CINDA</p> <p>A Human Rights and Civil Rights Perspective</p> <p>Lobbying against this Human Rights Perspective are the very individuals who have mined Medical Data to use to inform legislation and policy without consideration for the socio-economic disparities, biological differences of individuals, and current disabilities of individuals many of whom have had an extensive history of exposures that went unacknowledged, unrecognized, and un-investigated. These groups collectively have campaigned to continue with plans as scheduled despite the historical casualties they have exacerbated. These lobbies do not care that the disabled are trying to survive in a system that doesn't care about our mental, brain, and behavioral differences because it is viewed as non-medical and non-profitable. We are under served, under represented, lack access, and face socio- economic conditions because of a broken Medicaid system in Colorado and now they want to compound the issue and continue to ignore problems and have no solution for those they have already harmed.</p>
<p>Grace Cole</p> <p>For</p> <p>Self</p>	<p>Dear Committee Members</p> <p>My name is Grace Cole. I write today in support of HB-21-1191 Prohibition of Discrimination COVID-19 Vaccination Status. My family has already been impacted by discrimination in the workplace due to concerns around the COVID vaccines. My 17 year old daughter received a notice from her employer (Altavita Senior Care) stating that she will lose her job on July 1, 2021 if she does not get the vaccine. Not only has her job been threatened, she's experiencing taunting by supervisors for her decision not to be vaccinated. My daughter and I already have medical conditions that are included in the list of known adverse effects (autoimmune). We fear our conditions could worsen or could result in death if we receive the vaccine. She, therefore will be losing her job on July 1. In addition she will be attending college this coming fall. This is all now up in the air as well due to the announcement that the university will be requiring the vaccine to attend. We are aware we can obtain an exemption; however this is still discriminatory in that the policy states that if there is an outbreak, she will be excluded from classes at our cost.</p> <p>My husband is a paramedic in the metro area for Falck Rocky Mountain Ambulance. He too is already being discriminated against in that his</p>

	<p>company has announced via email on April 28, 2021 a new policy in which all employees will be required to show their vaccine cards to the on duty supervisor at the beginning each shift. Ambulances staffed by all vaccinated employees can ride together without masks if they are not caring for a patient. However, if anyone is not vaccinated then all employees on that ambulance are required to wear masks for the entire 12+ hour shift. He now stresses each morning before going to work that he will be targeted, harassed and pressured into taking the vaccine.</p> <p>I implore you to join the many other states who have banned employer discrimination as well as vaccine passports in protecting our medical and religious liberty.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Grace Cole</p>
<p>Marti Hopper For Self</p>	<p>Written Testimony for Health and Insurance Committee</p> <p>May 2021</p> <p>This testimony is in support of HB21-1191.</p> <p>We have all seen the recent ramping up of planned mandates from employers, businesses, public schools, and universities across our state to get a COVID-19 vaccine. I find it frightening that these agencies could mandate a medical intervention that should be a personal and private choice for all Coloradans.</p> <p>People may choose not to be vaccinated for a myriad of reasons including pre-existing medical conditions, severe reactions to the first dose, religious reasons, or simply the right to choose not to have a gene-based, experimental drug injected into their bodies.</p> <p>Under the Nuremberg Code, adopted pursuant to Nazi medical experiments: "The voluntary consent of the human subject is absolutely essential. This means that the person...[is] able to exercise free power of choice, without the intervention of any element of...coercion."</p>

	<p>Coercion to accept any medical intervention is never equitable and will impact marginalized communities at a higher rate than members of more powerful groups. Enthusiasm for the COVID shot among African Americans is low and understandable given the long history of medical experimentation on communities of color.</p> <p>Disallowing people access to jobs, goods, and services, based on private medical choices is a violation of our most fundamental rights as Americans.</p> <p>In the end, discrimination in any form is wrong. HB21-1191 is an anti-discrimination bill based on protecting personal, medical choices. No one should have to choose between getting an experimental vaccine and living a normal life. Please support HB21-1191.</p> <p>Marti Hopper, PhD Boulder CO</p>
<p>Sonia Cruz For Self</p>	<p>Colorado workers must be protected from discrimination. I urge the house to support HB21 1191 to prohibit employers from taking adverse action against an employees based on the employee’s COVID-19 Vaccination status, including people who work in health care facilities. I agree with the bill's proposed establishment in state law that no COVID-19 Vaccine shall be made mandatory in Colorado. Discrimination based on whether a client, patron or customer receive or will receive the COVID-19 Vaccine should be prohibited! Children should not be required to receive a COVID-19 Vaccine unless the parent chooses to have the child receive the vaccine. Health insurers should not be able to consider whether a person has received a COVID-19 Vaccine to determine premiums. Because of COVID-19, we have seen travel restrictions, employment discrimination, and right of access to public venues over masking and testing, and it has started over vaccination. This is discriminatory and the House has a responsibility to stop such discrimination in Colorado.</p> <p>Vaccine passports and proof of vaccination violates medical privacy rights. It is illegal to ask employees or candidates about age, ancestry, citizenship, credit rating, criminal record, disabilities, family status, gender, medical information, military discharge, pregnancy, or religion. Gov Polis' executive order of May 2nd opens the door to proof of vaccination or vaccine passports requirements to exist in public places.</p> <p>Protect Colorado from segregation, discrimination, or unlawful termination related to vaccination status. Vaccination is a medical intervention that carries a risk of injury or death. People injured by a COVID-19 vaccine have</p>

	<p>little recourse. Vaccine manufactures and providers are shielded from liability through the PREP Act. Vaccination MUST be voluntary.</p> <p>Employees should have the right to refuse vaccines for work. So many factors need to be considered before making a vaccination decision. Family history is a key deciding factor. Humans must be entrusted with medical decisions for ourselves.</p> <p>I urge you all to SUPPORT HB21 1191!</p>
<p>Jody Nickerson For Self</p>	<p>I am writing with eager anticipation that this bill be passed unanimously. We can remove a mask but not a vaccine. My daughter has autoimmune disease and is not able to take this vaccine for medical reasons. This bill would force her to lose a job that she has been in for years. I hope you agree that this would not only be financially devastating raising three children by herself let alone the devastation on the children emotionally and her many devoted years and skill.</p> <p>I am not against vaccination. I think you can agree that there is no significant verified data and not being FDA approved is enough logic and reason to support this bill. It is now documented that 3,362 in the last four months have died due to taking the vaccine. This information is on the CDC website. If you did not know this then that alone should make you vote YES on this bill.</p> <p>The power given to a company to prevent an applicant to apply for a job or an employee to lose a job due to not having taken the vaccine is discriminatory as I am sure you will agree. It dives into Labor Protection Laws and HIPPA guidelines that opens pandoras box regarding protecting an individuals' rights. Too many have fought for equal rights.</p> <p>By voting against this bill, you will be allowing Health care agencies (Medicare, Medicaid and private insurance companies) to be able to discriminate and deny services if an individual did not receive a vaccine. Is this really the path you feel an agency or company should be allowed such power? Think of the many lives you will be responsible for by not approving the protection of an individuals' health.</p> <p>We have learned that there are preventative and proactive treatments without having to be vaccinated. If we don't take the vaccine, we MIGHT get it. If we take the vaccine, WE CAN GET IT. If we have had COVID, we can get it again. There is scientific proof of the natural antibodies in our body that can build up a resistance to the virus as with many flu, or bacterial illnesses.</p> <p>Let us stand together and agree that no employer should have such power to discriminate when there is no substantial proof. Let us not open the doors for insurance companies to be able to deny services with requiring a vaccine. If there are laws protecting the manufacturing companies of these</p>

	<p>vaccines, then there should be laws like this to protect the people that chose not to take the vaccine.</p> <p>PLEASE VOTE YES ON THIS BILL.</p>
<p>Doug Farmer</p> <p>Questions Only</p> <p>Colorado Health Care Association</p>	<p>Madam Chair and Members of the Committee,</p> <p>My Name is Doug Farmer and I am President and CEO of the Colorado Health Care Association. Our association represents nursing home and assisted living providers throughout the state. Please accept the following testimony in opposition to HB 21-1191.</p> <p>HB 21-1191 would prohibit employers from requiring vaccination as a condition of employment, including employees of licensed health care facilities. Throughout the Covid-19 Pandemic health care providers tried a variety of methods to protect their residents from the horrible effects of the virus. The uptake of vaccines has had the most significant and lasting impact on our members’ ability to protect their residents. Long term care providers bear the risk of liability from providing health care and should maintain control over the vaccine status of the employees that interact with residents. While few if any long term care providers currently require their employees to be vaccinated, we ask that the committee not eliminate that possibility.</p> <p>The operation of nursing homes is regulated by the federal government. When the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services creates new mandates for providers, those mandates must be followed, regardless of state law. The consequences for not following federal regulation include a lessening of our publicly available quality scores, significant fines, and the potential loss of Medicare and Medicaid certification. If the federal government requires the vaccination of health care workers, long term care providers will have no choice but to comply. A state law to the contrary would only serve to create unresolvable conflict between employers and employees.</p> <p>In the midst of a pandemic we ask that our providers’ ability to increase vaccination rates of their employees for the protection of our vulnerable resident’s not be diminished. We therefore ask that you vote “no” on HB 21-1191.</p> <p>I appreciate the Committee’s consideration of our concerns about this bill. I would be happy to answer any questions Committee members may have.</p>

<p>Elizabeth Brown</p> <p>Against</p> <p>Self</p>	<p>I am a nurse who has worked this entire pandemic in the hospital setting without proper PPE. I also volunteered for a clinical trial for a covid vaccine to help bring vaccines to the public. I have seen first hand what COVID can do to a person and treated it for over a year to the best of my ability.</p> <p>However, today, I am here as a concerned Colorado parent against this bill. Workplace safety has often required vaccines. It isn't new. I am a mother of a medically complex child who spends time in the Children's Hospital. During flu season, I can walk into the hospital and know at any time who has received their vaccine. How? Because the employer requires not only the vaccine but a "passport" identified on every ID card of every employee, from valet, to the person bringing her meal tray, to the nurse who spends the most time at the bedside caring for her.</p> <p>As a parent, it's my right to know who is protected from bringing the flu into my daughter's room and determining what risks we are willing to take. I have requested different providers based on immunization status and I would not hesitate to do so again.</p> <p>My daughter isn't old enough to receive the COVID vaccine and for the past year, before the vaccine, I lived in fear of bringing her home a deadly disease. A deadly disease that is now a vaccine preventable disease. Employers should have the right to require their staff to protect themselves, their families, and their patrons, clients, or patients. Infection control is paramount to ending this pandemic before we see yet another wave.</p> <p>This bill prevents workplaces from taking steps that are approved and supported by every single major healthcare association in this country. This bill prevents workplaces from supporting evidence based practice and threatens hospitals with yet another surge of COVID.</p> <p>Immunization is not a protected class. This bill is manipulating civil liberties against common sense regulations that are safe, effective, and science based.</p>
<p>Justin Virant</p> <p>For</p> <p>Self</p>	<p>I am in favor of HB21-1191. I feel very concerned about the employer mandates of the COVID 19 vaccines. I work at an elder care facility. I have seen residents pass away shortly after getting the vaccine, others have experienced physical and mental decline. Now this facility wants to mandate that everyone, residents and staff be vaccinated in order to be employed. There is growing evidence that these experimental COVID 19</p>

	<p>vaccines are leading to sudden deaths and injuries. Last time I checked there have been an astonishing 3,500 deaths from the experimental COVID 19 vaccines and 12,000 injuries. It is known that only about 1% of adverse effects are even reported. So the number of deaths is likely much higher. I feel it is unreasonable and criminal to ask someone to submit to a treatment, in order to be employed, that has caused death. According to Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. , by federal law an experimental vaccine cannot be mandated by employers.</p>
<p>Jennifer Brandt  For  Self</p>	<p>Dear Sirs and Madams;</p> <p>Thank you for taking the time to hear my support for this very important bill HR21-1191.</p> <p>I support this effort for the following reasons:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Covid vaccines are designed to reduce the symptoms of those who contract the disease and are NOT guaranteed to prevent the spread of the illness. Literature is available to support this. Even the CDC and the vaccine inserts are clear about this. The data/statistics showing the efficacy of the immunity/transference of the virus after vaccination is complicated and difficult to interpret without professional objective interpretation and guidance.</li> <li>2. This vaccine technology is too new to guarantee that they are safe long term or even short term for many. Many of the people forced to vacate may be damaged, especially those in low risk groups such as children, adolescents and anyone with medical factors causing them to be at a greater risk of adverse effects from the unknown long term effects of these new vaccines or components of the vaccines. The European Union has publicly logged numbers of adverse effects from the vaccines at 330,218 with 7766 deaths directly attributable as of April 17, 2021. The US reports 118,902 adverse reactions and 3544 deaths with 12,618 serious injuries.</li> <li>3. Herd immunity is scientifically debatable at this point and not likely to be achieved with a vaccine. Thus, it cannot be reliably used to support this bill. Many reputable sources cite the disparity in the opinions of how best to achieve herd immunity based on the Korean and Swedish handling of COVID and historical accounts of past outbreaks. Some scientist, immunologists and data specialists claim that herd immunity may actually be hindered by artificial means of these vaccinations.</li> <li>4. It is the duty of the government to protect the civil liberties and the Constitution of all Coloradans and US citizens regardless of the "pandemic.</li> </ol>

	<p>We are not a utilitarian society that sacrifices some of our people for the "greater" good, especially when that greater good is not proven or scientifically accepted.</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration, please support this bill as it proposes to protect our citizens health and rights. True scientific practice and democracy go hand in hand. We need better data, investigative science and open discussion. Dissent, disagreement and discussion are NOT the hallmark of disinformation - nor should they be used interchangeably.</p> <p>Jennifer Brandt</p>
<p>Cara Racenstein For Self</p>	<p>Hello, I am sending in this Written Testimony In Support of Bill# HB21-1191. I am a Senior in High School getting ready to attend CU Boulder next school year. I am asking for all college students who do not take the COVID 19 vaccine to be FREE FROM ANY DISCRIMINATION from all state colleges / universities!! It is our Right to decide what we put into our bodies, and all citizens of Colorado deserve to live in a Free Society with regards to any health choice decisions we make. PLEASE PASS HB21-1191!!</p>
<p>Janet Gillis For Self</p>	<p>Each individual (or parent of minors on their behalf) should have the right to determine what goes in their body. No medical intervention should ever be deemed mandatory, especially when there are risks involved. Vaccines are no exception. There are risks and rewards which each individual has to right to assess for themselves. Vaccine injuries do exist...some of which threaten life and/or quality of life if it doesn't kill. Even if the rates of death and injury are low, every life matters and should be protected. Mandatory vaccines infringe on these rights, especially when there are not protections for the individual against the company, should they be injured or killed. Vaccine passports further risk the precedent that our private affairs are ok to be made public and open the door for discrimination based on personal choices. I'm astonished that such an idea could even be a possibility in an era where we seek to reduce and remove any possible discriminations.</p> <p>Recent surveys of hospital staff, healthcare workers, essential workers, nursing home staff, and long-term care employees report responses in range from 20-60% saying they would not take a COVID-19 vaccine. Even workers in healthcare want choices. In the absence of protective state laws, there are no state or federal employee protection exceptions to employee vaccine mandates for COVID-19 vaccines.</p> <p>Covid-19 has shown to be 99.5-99.9% survivable, most especially for the young. Why is there such a rush to vaccinate for something that is entirely survivable, especially when the vaccine only reduces the severity of symptoms at most and could possibly kill a person or injure them for life.</p>

	<p>Covid-19 also kills and injures people, but the decision whether the risk of Covid or the vaccine is worse should be left to each individual.</p> <p>Additionally, one's choice to vaccinate or not should not prohibit them from keeping or obtaining a job, from travel, or anything else.</p> <p>Please sign HB 21-1191 to protect our freedoms. Freedom of choice is something protected by our Nation's Constitution and should be upheld.</p>
<p>Christine McCormack</p> <p>For</p> <p>Self</p>	<p>To Whom it May Concern:</p> <p>Each individual (or parent/guardian of minors on their behalf) should have the right to determine what goes in their body. No medical intervention should ever be deemed mandatory, especially when there are risks involved. Vaccines are no exception. There are risks and rewards which each individual has to right to assess for themselves. Vaccine injuries do exist...some of which threaten life and/or quality of life if it doesn't kill. Even if the rates of death and injury are low, every life matters and should be protected. Mandatory vaccines infringe on these rights, especially when there are not protections for the individual against the company, should they be injured or killed. Vaccine passports further risk the precedent that our private affairs are ok to be made public and open the door for discrimination based on personal choices. I'm astonished that such an idea could even be a possibility in an era where we seek to reduce and remove any possible discriminations.</p> <p>Recent surveys of hospital staff, healthcare workers, essential workers, nursing home staff, and long-term care employees report responses in range from 20-60% saying they would not take a COVID-19 vaccine. Even workers in healthcare want choices. In the absence of protective state laws, there are no state or federal employee protection exceptions to employee vaccine mandates for COVID-19 vaccines.</p> <p>Covid-19 has shown to be 99.5-99.9% survivable, most especially for the young. Why is there such a rush to vaccinate for something that is entirely survivable, especially when the vaccine only reduces the severity of symptoms at most and could possibly kill a person or injure them for life. Covid-19 also kills and injures people, but the decision whether the risk of Covid or the vaccine is worse should be left to each individual.</p>

	<p>Additionally, one's choice to vaccinate or not should not prohibit them from keeping or obtaining a job, from travel, or anything else.</p> <p>Please sign HB 21-1191 to protect our freedoms. Freedom of choice is something protected by our Nation's Constitution and should be upheld.</p>
<p>Jolene Reed For Self</p>	<p>Vaccination Freedom of Choice NO MATTER WHAT!</p> <p>SUPPORT HB 21-1191 and all the protections it provides, prohibiting mandatory COVID-19 vaccination and adverse actions against employees and discrimination against individuals based on their COVID-19 Vaccination status.</p> <p>Because of COVID-19, we have seen travel restrictions, employment discrimination, and right of access to public venues over masking and testing, and it has started over vaccination.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Many Colorado Colleges are already mandating COVID-19 Vaccines for their students and staff even though COVID-19 Vaccines are not on the list of vaccines required for school students in Colorado.</li> <li>• Atria Senior Living, which has 3 facilities in Colorado, required all employees to receive 2 COVID-19 vaccines by May 1, 2021 as a condition of employment or face termination.</li> <li>• More than 60% of companies in the U.S. will require proof of vaccination from their employees, according to a new survey conducted by Arizona State University with support from the Rockefeller Foundation.</li> <li>• Vaccine passports in other areas of the country are threatening right of access to public venues. New York has already announced their vaccine passport, called the "Excelsior Pass" in order to gain entry into events and businesses.</li> <li>• The executive order by Governor Polis issued on May 2, 2021 allows no masking in Public Indoor Spaces if 80% or more of the individuals in a Public Indoor Space have provided proof of vaccination and allows restaurant employees to not wear masks if 85% of a restaurant's employees are fully vaccinated. This is opening the door for the requirement of proof of vaccination or vaccine passports. This executive order does not take into consideration the durable immunity achieved by those already recovered by COVID-19 infections.</li> </ul> <p>Nobody is saying reasonable precautions should not be taken, but it crosses the line when healthy law-abiding citizens are segregated,</p>

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	<p>discriminated against, or fired from their job for declining to take a vaccine. Vaccination is a medical intervention that carries a risk of injury or death.</p>
<p>Elizabeth Steinhour For Self</p>	<p>Thank you for supporting our right to choose whether or not to expose our children to the possible dangers of COVID forced vaccinations.</p> <p>Imposing a vaccine mandate is dangerous for my children and other young people especially since the vaccines and their effects are not certain.</p> <p>Not only would it create a two tier society that will discriminate and further divide us - it will prevent me and my family from enjoying public events, freedom to work where we want to and possibly be exposed to unnecessary, serious emotional and physical harm.</p> <p>I'm worried about preserving our individual rights to choose and the freedoms that my kids and grandchildren will enjoy if we don't protect our right to choose what's best for our families.</p> <p>Thank you, Elizabeth Steinhour</p>
<p>Gina Soto For Self</p>	<p>Dear Members,</p> <p>I will keep this short and sweet. My husband and I are both extremely concerned that requiring COVID vaccination is going to directly affect our ability to work in the State of Colorado and may force us to move.</p> <p>I will start by saying that we are in favor of “thoughtful vaccination” - each person is free to research any medical intervention they may be considering and choose to do what they will based on their own research and discussion with a trusted healthcare advisor.</p> <p>My husband is a classical musician for 15 years here in CO and is contracted with several orchestras within the state of Colorado. The musicians have all struggled due to COVID restrictions and the pandemic. If Orchestras choose to require COVID vaccination he will be unable to go back to work this upcoming season.</p> <p>I am a Pilates instructor with 15 years experience - I typically work in a clinical setting (physical therapy office) but I am not a medical doctor - it is</p>

	<p>absolutely nowhere in my ethical sphere to ask clients or customers about their vaccination status in order to host classes or sessions at my location. I cannot see how requiring vaccination status is going to pan out for small businesses like mine: we don't want to teach people with masks on forever, but we also don't want to violate their privacy in order to do so - it's unethical and, quite frankly, takes away from the neutral atmosphere we are trying to create where all can come together to heal/breathe/move.</p> <p>Please hear the small voices like ours. We just want to be free to work, live our lives, give our talents to the community without all these requirements and restrictions. We do not want to move out of state in order to have peace of mind. Please help protect our rights and the rights of our small child....</p> <p>Thank you.</p>
<p>Cassandra Letkomiller For Self</p>	<p>Dear House Health &amp; Insurance Committee Members,</p> <p>My name is Cassandra Letkomiller and I am writing you to let you know why I support HB 21-1191 "Prohibition Against Discrimination Based on the Covid19 Vaccine".</p> <p>I am by all means not an "anti vaxxer". As a nurse I have reasons backed by sound data to believe that the covid vaccination risks may outweigh the benefits for some categories/age groups of patients. All medical treatments come with varying levels of risk, and the therapeutic benefit for the patient must a.) outweigh the risks and b.) be voluntarily chosen by the patient.</p> <p>It is not ethical to force a person at low risk from natural covid (such as a child or healthy younger adult) to assume possible risk of physical damage from covid vaccination "to protect others". This is also a nonsensical statement as the vaccines often do not stop transmission and infection with covid (they may only lessen severity of symptoms for the vaccinated individual).</p> <p>It is disingenuous for proponents of the covid vaccine to state that they know beyond a shadow of a doubt all long term consequences from this vaccine at this point. It is unfortunately common human hubris, like the builders of the Titanic who thought the ship was "unsinkable".</p>

	<p>It is also not ethical to force vaccination upon individuals that have immunity to covid from natural infection. We have studies that confirm long term immunity from natural covid infection is both possible and common.</p> <p>-NIH Study- Lasting Immunity After Covid Infection-</p> <p><a href="https://www.nih.gov/news-events/nih-research-matters/lasting-immunity-found-after-recovery-covid-19">https://www.nih.gov/news-events/nih-research-matters/lasting-immunity-found-after-recovery-covid-19</a></p> <p>Since Americans fall into different risk/benefit categories depending upon health status, age, and medical history a forced one size fits all approach to handling the pandemic with covid vaccination would be evil, immoral, and harmful.</p> <p>Opening the door to unnecessary coercion even under the guise of "the greater good" can only lead to darker things further down the road as well.</p> <p>Remember also how many times our "experts" have changed their recommendations and outlook on how to handle the pandemic as we learned new and unexpected information. While we can take masks off of our faces with ease, once we put this new vaccine into our bodies and our children's bodies we have no way of reversing the decision.</p> <p>Respectfully,</p> <p>Cassandra Letkomiller, RN, BSN</p>
<p>Jillian Rau  For  Self</p>	<p>Hello,</p> <p>I am writing to you today to ask that you vote Yes on HB 21-1191. Medical decisions should be a choice, especially when it comes to experimental injections with no long term safety studies and where the manufacturers of such vaccinations can not be held liable if anyone is harmed by their product. We see what's happening. One Covid death is too many, but when it comes to deaths from covid vaccines...crickets. I am part of a growing number of concerned citizens who are sick of our rights being trampled on by corrupt politicians looking to fulfill their obligations to Big Pharma</p>

	<p>lobbyists at the expense of the very people they are supposed to be working for. If you find my boldness in stating this disrespectful, imagine the disrespect we feel at the very thought of the possibility of our employer firing us or being denied health insurance because we refuse to become a human experiment. Voting no on this bill would just be another incremental step in our government's path to Medical Tyranny. This bill prohibits discrimination for those who are unable or do not wish to have the vaccine. It does not affect those who want it or have had it. What about our protected health information? It is certainly not my employer's business as to what vaccinations I've had, just like it's not their business as to what medications I'm on or what medical conditions I have. What about the large number of people who have already contracted and recovered from Covid? They have naturally acquired immunity so it makes complete sense that they would not want the vaccine. If this bill does not pass, they will be pressured to get a vaccination for a virus they've already had in fear of discrimination. If the vaccine works, then what is the problem with prohibiting discrimination against those who do not want it? The people who got the injection are protected, right? So what purpose does voting no on this bill serve other than to create more divide in humanity? I urge you to respect the sovereignty of human beings by respecting our right to choose the right medical decision without discrimination. Please vote Yes.</p>
<p>Tanya Hircock For Self</p>	<p>Good afternoon madame chair and members of the committee. I'm here today to ask for your support on HB 21-1191. I am a Colorado native, and have historically voted Democrat and supported progressive ideals. I am adamantly against discrimination for any reason; skin color, race, sexual orientation, religious preference, or medical choices. House Bill 1191 would prevent the type of discrimination which is beginning to crop up surrounding the Co-vid 19 vaccines. Making this vaccine mandatory or using regulatory agencies like DORA to police vaccination status, or denying employment opportunities for unvaccinated individuals would be a clear violation of basic human rights. It would also set a very dangerous precedent as a clear invasion of medical privacy, if suddenly everyone would have to show vaccine cards for basic human services or opportunities which should be available to all American citizens. House Bill 21-1191 would prevent this sort of discrimination. It is a common sense, non-partisan bill that all citizens and legislators should support.</p>
<p>Wendy McBride For Self</p>	<p>I am a disabled, immune compromised person who has already had Covid - 19. According to the NIH, I have therefore developed immunity. This bill is designed to prevent discrimination against me by employers, schools and other businesses. Without this bill, my medical privacy is in danger. I am hispanic and see my community being underrepresented by forcing us to get vaccinated despite our individual medical conditions.</p>

	<p>I am wondering when the democratic party decided to turn against me and my community? In other legislation, Senators Pettersen and Donovans bill SB21-142 includes language to protect personal health decisions. But voting against HB21-1191, is in complete hypocrisy to SB142.</p> <p>The Emergency Use Authorization specifically states that individuals must have the free “option to accept or refuse” these vaccines. I would argue that the prospect of being terminated from one’s job undermines our necessary freedoms. There still has not been completed trials to prove that this experimental vaccine is effective or safe. What will happen when businesses start being sued for their role in forcing a vaccination that may cause injury or death? According to the CDC, between Dec. 14, 2020 and April 30 a total of 157,277 adverse events were passively report to the U.S. government’s primary reporting system, including 3,837 deaths and 16,014 serious injuries. The death number is up to 4,434 now. Who is speaking out for these people? Are businesses ready to be liable for injury caused by this experimental vaccine? Keep in mind that a Harvard study in 2010 found that “fewer than 1 percent of vaccine injuries” are reported to VAERS, suggesting the actual numbers of deaths and injuries are significantly higher.</p> <p>I ask this committee for a yes vote.</p>
<p>Jami Qussar For Self</p>	<p>Today I am asking you to SUPPORT HB 21-1191.</p> <p>This bill is a reasonable, common sense bill that is simply reiterating the rights that Coloradans are guaranteed under the United States Constitution and Federal Law.</p> <p>This bill is not about vaccines.</p> <p>This bill is not about science.</p> <p>This bill should not be polarizing or controversial.</p> <p>HB 21-1191 is simply an ANTI-DISCRIMINATION Bill.</p>

	<p>Under the provisions of an EUA, the injections cannot be mandatory. This is quite simply, the law.</p> <p>EVERY Coloradan has the right to make their own unique, personal and private medical decisions without fear of discrimination, segregation or employment repercussions.</p> <p>Please vote YES on this bill &amp; allow it to receive full consideration.</p> <p>If you choose to kill this bill, you will be revealing how extreme your agenda is as a representative.</p> <p>The people of Colorado are watching and we want to retain our right to determine what is medically best for us and our families without fear of losing our livelihoods or being segregated out of society over those private decisions.</p> <p>Please vote YES on 1191 and protect all Coloradans from discrimination.</p>
<p>Tiffany Neil For Self</p>	<p>Dear Representatives Ransom, Representative Van Beber and Committee,</p> <p>First let me say thank you for taking a moment to express my support for HB-21-1191 - Prohibit Discrimination COVID-19 Vaccine Status, I agree with this as the bill and support the passing with expediency. I have several concerns with the vaccine and agree whole heartedly that no entity, government agency, or commercial business should be able to discriminate against an individual for their choice regarding this vaccine.</p> <p>Additionally, I am disappointed that in a time where we as American need to unite are divided by actions of our government to including the most recent executive order by Governor Polis – see specific example below:</p> <p>Individuals are permitted to remove their masks in public indoor spaces if 80% of the individuals in the space have shown proof of vaccination, even if there are 10 or more unvaccinated individuals in the space.</p>

	<p>This country has always stood for individual freedoms, the right to choose, and I struggle with the executive order because that should be used for short term emergencies, where getting action from the state legislature would be unreasonably delayed. However, in the last year the state has allowed this executive order to be updated multiple times, enforced, and frankly its overrun and ruined millions of lives in the state of Colorado. This all was done in the guise of public health, and every life counts – so we need to consider both sides not just those who have lost their life.</p> <p>Now with the most recent modification this bill becomes ever more important because no one should have to expose their private and very personal medical decisions to strangers, with whom they choose share space. This is discrimination and it must be stopped.</p> <p>I understand wanting to feel safe in such a time as this, but it should not come at the cost of our personal freedoms.</p> <p>I believe that most people have taken these concerns to heart and make the best decision for their circumstances, and now we need to let life return with out division. This bill is going to help, and I ask that you please get this all that way through the process quickly. Its time to heal.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Tiffany Neil</p>
<p>Charlotte Berg For Self</p>	<p>Thank you for hearing us.</p> <p>I am writing in support of the HB21-1191 bill.</p> <p>As an immigrant, Democrat and GLBTQ, I do hope that there is full democracy around choice of vaccination to the fullest extent.</p> <p>I immigrated to this country in hopes of true freedom and democracy this great country has to offer.</p>

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	<p>Thank you, Charlotte Berg</p>
<p>David Racenstein For Self</p>	<p>Hello, am submitting this Written Testimony In Favor of Bill# HB21-1191!! I feel that every person in this state of Colorado has the right to Privacy with respect to personal health decisions, free from coercion from the government. This is Free Choice!!! We all deserve that. I also feel like there should be No Discrimination of any kind against any persons who choose not to get the COVID 19 vaccine as far as employment opportunities go or being denied any services or being able to visit stores, restaurants or any other business from not having the vaccine. It is our right to live in a FREE SOCIETY!!!</p>
<p>Janetta Goines For Self</p>	<p>I am addressing my concerns regarding HB21-1191 PLEASE for the case and cause of every citizen not only in the Great State of Colorado but across this UNITED STATES of AMERICA set president for freedom and democracy by voting for this BILL, PLEASE allow us to have our freedom of CHOICE and VOICE to choose what we put in our bodies ....VOTE your HEART knowing YOU are a FREEDOM LOVING citizen of choice also....just like myself and others.</p>

## Written Testimony

Written testimony is a public record under the Colorado Open Records Act (CORA) and is provided to individuals upon request. Individuals submitting written testimony must use this sheet, but do not need to complete the optional portions. Attachments to this sheet are permitted. Please see a staff person for any questions regarding written testimony.

Bill: HB 21-1191

Date: 5/12/21

Name <i>Patty Domenico</i>		
Address <i>(optional)</i>		
City <i>(optional)</i> <i>Golden</i>	Zip <i>(optional)</i>	
Telephone: <i>(optional)</i>		
Email: <i>(optional)</i>		
Representing		
Position on Bill:	For <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Against
	Neutral	

I believe citizens have the right to choose whether they wish to receive a vaccine. Just as the flu shots are administered each year, I have had the freedom to choose whether I wished to take advantage of this shot or not.

The main question I have is why <sup>vaccinated</sup> people are afraid to be around non-vaccinated people. If you believe the vaccine works, then why would one be concerned about contracting this flu? Those who choose not to be vaccinated, then accept that possibility of contracting whatever the illness is. Their choice.

People should not be kept from working if they honor their freedom to choose not to be vaccinated. That's what I believe this bill is about — protecting those folks from discrimination. Thank You. *Patty Domenico*



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Bill: 21-1191

Date: 5/12/2021

I support this bill because

- COVID 19 vaccines are not  
yet proven to be safe

for all people and are only authorized by the  
FDA for emergency use

- No one should be forced to inject anything into  
their bodies. It should strictly be their choice  
and a matter only between them and their  
personal physician

Name	ROBERT DALTON	
Address <small>(optional)</small>	9660 KINGS MILL LN	
City <small>(optional)</small>	LONE TREE	Zip <small>(optional)</small> 80124
Telephone: <small>(optional)</small>		
Email: <small>(optional)</small>	bobdalton2110@gmail.com	
Representing		
Position on Bill: 21-1191	For <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Against
	Neutral	



## Written Testimony

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Bill: 21-1191  
Date: 5/12/2021

I support 21-1191  
VOTE YES

Name	Cynthia Dalton	
Address (optional)	9660 Kings Mill Ln	
City (optional)	Lone Tree	Zip (optional) 80124
Telephone: (optional)	303-725-5274	
Email: (optional)	cindydalton1@gmail.com	
Representing		
Position on Bill:	For	Against
	Neutral	

Between Dec 14 2020 - April 30 2021 there have been almost 4,000 deaths following the Covid vaccine, and over 157,277 adverse events, including 16,014 serious injuries.

There have been inadequate safety studies, on the vaccine + its currently authorized only for emergency use.

It is against our civil liberties to mandate any medical procedure against the citizen population - especially an experimental drug.

And there are successful treatment alternatives, which makes mandates illegal. Unfortunately, only 1 side of the scientific community have been allowed to be heard.

There are medical risks to this vaccine - when there are risks there must be choice.

Thank You



## Written Testimony

Written testimony is a public record under the Colorado Open Records Act (CORA) and is provided to individuals upon request. Individuals submitting written testimony must use this sheet, but do not need to complete the optional portions. Attachments to this sheet are permitted. Please see a staff person for any questions regarding written testimony.

Bill: HB 21-1191

Date: 5-12-21

Name <u>Rebecca Heath</u>		
Address (optional) <u>19610 Clubhouse Dr #400</u>		
City (optional) <u>Parker</u>	Zip (optional) <u>80013</u>	
Telephone: (optional)		
Email: (optional)		
Representing <u>Myself &amp; Family</u>		
Position on Bill: <u>0</u>	For <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Against
	Neutral	

It is imperative that you support this bill that will provide critical protections for your constituents in Colorado. Thousands of Coloradans like those in my family, have been injured by vaccination and will need, without a doubt, chose to avoid, and need to avoid further vaccines which could compound further vaccine damage. This bill will provide the legal protections that they need to protect themselves and their families and still obtain gainful employment. It would be a tragedy in need to create a barbaric and archaic 2 class society based on health status. Will you support laws that HIPAA has fought for? Or would you create a society where HIV patients, Hep B patients, unvaccinated patients etc. cannot be gainfully employed or have equal access to public environments? It is in this attitude that I am asking you to honor our personal Health freedoms in America, and ensure that we can move forward in ways that make sense. Laws or environments that coerce vaccines inherently violate long standing fought for HIPAA laws & international laws

like the Nuremberg Code which was instituted so that we wouldn't be found making the same mistakes as societies have done in the past.

Supporting this bill also supports Imperative religious freedoms we espouse as Americans. There are those who are morally averse to this practice should not be forced to have these vaccines in order to sustain employment, receive an education, or move freely about in society.

Bodily Autonomy is an American Imperative,  
We are begging, but shouldn't have to beg you  
to Protect our Human Rights  
and Body Autonomy.

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Bill: HB 1191

Date: 5/12/21

Name <u>BLAIR CHANDLER</u>		
Address <i>(optional)</i>		
City <i>(optional)</i>		Zip <i>(optional)</i>
Telephone: <i>(optional)</i>		
Email: <i>(optional)</i>		
Representing <u>self</u>		
Position on Bill:	<input checked="" type="radio"/> For	<input type="radio"/> Against
	<input type="radio"/> Neutral	

Dear Madame Chair &  
committee members -

VOTE YES, PLEASE.

protect individuals from discrimination. The pressure to comply is real. There is a strong argument for vaccination. There is no informed consent. There is judgement on those who chose to delay or not comply.

These vaccinations are experimental, we need to remember that. But listening to our school board meeting and connecting with neighbors and families it is clear that there is a strong narrative - a strong sense that we have to share our medical information and there is only one choice - to get on board and belong. That does not create a safe environment for anyone.

I'm saddened by the pro and con's that continue to divide our country and erode our conversations that would create broader solutions.

Please consider all that has been presented this evening.  
Thank you. Blair Chandler

