

March 5, 2021

HB1171: Labor and Employment – Maryland Employee Protection Plan for Vaccine Refusal"

SUPPORT

Dear Chair Davis, Vice-Chair Dumais, and members of the Economic Matters Committee,

I am writing today to request a FAVORABLE REPORT for HB 1171.

As I'm sure you are aware, the long-term safety of the vaccine trials have not yet been completed. It is still unknown what, if any long-term effects from the SARS COV-2 vaccine might be. In the meantime, it is imperative that workers retain the right to accept or decline the vaccine, without it impacting their employment.

It is important to note that the none of the manufactures or providers of the vaccines have any liability for injury or death. According to the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS) (<https://vaers.hhs.gov/reportevent.html>). between Dec. 14, 2020, and Feb. 18, 2021, 19,907 reports of adverse events were submitted to VAERS, including 1,095 deaths and 3,767 serious injuries. Additional investigation into these injuries and deaths must be completed to determine who might be at risk for such injuries. In the meantime, no one should have to risk losing their job because they choose to decline the vaccine. People must be allowed to make medical decisions based on advice from their own doctors, not their employees.

Another important thing to consider is that the mRNA technology used to develop the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines, is new technology and long-term data is not available. The FDA has only issued an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) and has NOT fully authorized the use.

Please also consider that Pfizer, Moderna and Johnson and Johnson have no evidence that their vaccines stop transmission - their only claim is that the people who get the vaccine will be less likely to suffer severe disease. This means that even those who do choose to receive it are still required to wear masks and socially distance as they still may pose a risk to other workers.

Thank you for your support and protection of workers right in this state.

Sincerely,

Dorothy Morgan
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