Jon Olsen
Jefferson
LD 51

Testimony on LD 51

Dear Honorable members of Education and  Cultural Affairs committee:

As one with two degrees in philosophy, I wish to address the philosophical merits of LD 51 as a corrective to the ill-advised LD 798 from several years ago. The historic bedrock principles of medical ethics are: First, Do No Harm, and  Informed Consent and were further enshrined after WW 2 with the Nuremberg principle which states unequivocally that certain rights are absolute, one of which is INFORMED CONSENT. To coerce people with threats of job loss or refusal of admission to school for choosing "No" to experimental injections is a gross violation of this bedrock ethical principle.

Further, the philosophical document that founded this country was the Declaration of Independence from an overreaching monarchical tyranny. Among the wise provisions asserted was the criterion for the validity of government was "consent of the governed."  The duty of government was above all to protect the "Life Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness" on the part of its citizens, among other rights that may be asserted. LD 798 manifests a gross violation thereof.

While there can be grounds for quarantine of people with highly contagious diseases, including especially self-quarantine (which is what I did when I got the Delta version of Covid), forcible penetration of the body of another person has a name. The reason that rape is a serious crime is not merely due to the potential for unwanted pregnancy or venereal disease, but above all due to its being an assault on bodily integrity. Such is exactly the case for coerced injections! You (generic "you") have no right to inject a fluid (or pill, or microchip) into my body without my explicit permission, well informed of all foreseeable consequences, with the exception of saving my life if I am unconscious.

Accordingly, I support LD 51 as a partial measure toward the total repeal of LD 798 and look forward to unanimous approval.  Thank you for your consideration.    Jon Olsen