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To whom it may concern: I have been a Pediatric Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant since 1998. I had worked at York Hospital since 1994. The Flu Shot had become 'mandatory' with exemptions allowed. I was given approval for Religious Exemptions with the requirement to wear a mask. Which I did faithfully in order to to continue my work with children.

This new mandate no longer allows Religious Exemptions nor Medical Exemptions exempt for anaphylactic. I was forced to either choose a shot that goes against my Religious Belief to stay employed or be terminated from my Pediatric OT career after 27 years at York Hospital. I chose to have Religious freedom and walked away from my career that I Loved and had built wonderful rapport with so many families.

This mandate is hurting the children that need services in Maine. It is hurting those of us that have built a career to support myself and my 4 children, as I am a single parent, to work for minimum wage and now can barely make ends meet.

This bill pass to needs to protect those that want their freedom.

Thank you