Katherine Jurdak Pembroke

I am in favor of the proposed legislation to pass LD867 which would prohibit mandatory vaccinations for five years to allow for safety testing and investigations into reproductive harm.

I am a registered nurse. I work full-time here in Maine and part of my job is to call Covid positive patients and triage them as to whether they can self monitor or do they need assistance from our team of nurses. I have assessed dozens upon dozens of Covid positive people and have assisted them in their treatment and offered education and suggestions and monitoring to help them recover. I can confidently assure you that at least 75% of our current Covid positive cases are fully vaccinated and approximately 50% are fully vaccinated with a booster shot as well. We are experiencing the highest numbers of Covid referrals that we have ever seen in the last two years despite the extremely high numbers of vaccinated people. This is my first hand experience and I feel it's important that this information is relayed. The vaccine is not stopping the transmission of Covid. We have more Covid now than ever before despite our efforts to stop this with vaccines.

When have we ever mandated a treatment for a disease that does not work?

As a mother of three daughters all living at home and with a child that will be going off to college in the fall I am especially concerned about their futures. My oldest daughter will be forced to have three Covid vaccinations within the next seven months to be able to attend college in the fall. She wants to be a nurse. She was not able to attend her CNA clinical and become certified this year and she is now being threatened with being fired from her job at McDonald's as well. All because she is unvaccinated. This is a perfectly healthy almost 18-year-old girl who has virtually zero chance of dying of Covid. She wants to go to college just like the majority of young people do and she will be put in a position where she needs to put her health and her future of possibly affecting her fertility, her nervous system ,her brain and her heart for the rest of her life ...so she can participate in her education. Her God-given right to an education will be teetering on whether she chooses to risk her health for a treatment that does not work and for a disease she has almost zero risk of dying from.

I have first-hand experience with multiple friends and patients that I have spoken to over the last two years who have described very dangerous and scary side effects to this vaccine. Several of them were hospitalized within the first two weeks for various reasons and all are very serious. Atrial fibrillation, cerebral vascular accident (stroke) and heart attack. These were healthy people without high risk pre-existing medical conditions who did not smoke, who were not overweight and did not drink alcohol. I've had other acquaintances, friends and patients report more mild symptoms but still something to take a good look at. White lesions in the mouth and throat that were so painful to swallow. Red rash and swollen arm for a month after the second Covid injection. Pain from the wrist up to the shoulder of the arm that was injected. I personally know of 3 women of childbearing age that began to bleed heavily for their menses and for extended periods of time once vaccinated. Several people have complained to me about severe fatigue after the vaccine that has not resolved or gone away, aching joints since the vaccination that has not resolved and brain fog for months with no explanation.

As a Registered Nurse of 22 years who has dedicated my career and livelihood to science and to health and helping people, Please Pass this bill and allow us the appropriate time needed to properly study the safety of these vaccines before we force them on people.

Especially our children.

Thank you.