

TESTIMONY OF CLAIRE MORTIMER, FNP, MSN IN SUPPORT OF LD 867 1/11/22

Good morning Senator Claxon, Representative Meyers, and esteemed committee members.

I am here today to urge you to vote "ought to pass" for LD 867, An Act to Prohibit Mandatory COVID-19 Vaccinations to Allow for Informed Consent

My name is Claire Mortimer. I live in Brooklin. I have been a nurse practitioner for almost 40 years. My medical training was at Yale University, and I have served on the faculties of the University of California and the Maine-Dartmouth Family Practice Residency Training Program. I have a private practice in Blue Hill.

Until a year ago, all medical decisions regarding medications, surgeries, testing and procedures had always been strictly private between the patient and their medical provider. All such decisions require careful consideration of each individual's medical conditions, risk factors, and potential benefits vs potential risks of any intervention.

The decision to receive a COVID vaccine is no different - or should be no different.

Vaccine mandates interfere with the patient-provider relationship.

The normal procedure for developing and testing a vaccine usually takes a minimum of 7 years, and often much longer. This is how much time laboratory studies, animal testing, and clinical trials require so that short-term and long-term side effects can be documented. All those observations and data allow a person to be fully informed of potential risks before consenting to an injection.

We now have one year of experience with COVID injections and associated adverse events.

Since 1990 adverse reactions to vaccines are supposed to be reported to the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System, or VAERS. In reality, only a small percentage of actual adverse events are reported to VAERS, but nonetheless it provides us with valuable partial data about concerning safety issues. I am quoting the most conservative figures from the VAERS database.

In 2021 the total number of adverse events reported to VAERS in the US following all three COVID vaccines was 715,856. Of these adverse events, 11,067 were considered life-threatening. 1

9,778 deaths following COVID injections have been reported to VAERS. Most of the deaths reported occurred either on the day of injection or within seven days. 1

Permanent disabilities have resulted in 11,413 people following COVID injections. 1

Heart attacks following COVID injections have been reported in 4,825 individuals. Myocarditis and pericarditis following COVID injections Have been reported to VAERS in 4,532 people.¹ All of these cardiac events are serious, and impact each one of these individuals for the rest of their lives. Medical expenses are significant to monitor damage to the heart and take medication or have procedures to prevent further damage to the heart after these events.

Miscarriages following COVID injections have been reported to VAERS 1,509 times. ¹

Most of the participants in the clinical trials were healthy people between 17 and 55 years old. No pregnant women participated in the clinical trials. ²

I do not have time or space to share the details of all of the many adverse events that have been reported to VAERS during the first year of the roll-out of these COVID vaccines.

Hundreds of scientific studies have been published and are underway to investigate some of these reported adverse events. We do not have enough information to provide fully informed consent to people considering being injected with these products.

Mandating these injections at this time is causing tremendous suffering and harm to people in Maine, some of whom have worked selflessly on the front lines for the duration of the pandemic, and made great sacrifices to protect us all.

I urge committee members and the state legislators to pass LD 867 and stop all mandates as soon as possible.

Respectfully,

Claire Mortimer, FNP, MSN

Brooklin

1. <https://vaers.hhs.gov/data.html>

<https://openvaers.com/covid-data>

2. <https://www.fda.gov/emergency-preparedness-and-response/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19/comirnaty-and-pfizer-biontech-covid-19-vaccine>

<https://www.fda.gov/emergency-preparedness-and-response/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19/moderna-covid-19-vaccine>