Madam Chair Landwehr and the House Committee on Health and Human Services:

I am writing to state that the Covid-19 vaccine should not be mandated for children to go to school or daycare.

This vaccine has only been out for 2 years initially under an EAU. Now the FDA has fast tracked it for children. These vaccines have not been properly studied in adults and certainly not in children. Already we have seen myocarditis and pericarditis after these mRNA Covid vaccines in teens and young adults. This heart inflammation can cause permanent cardiac damage.

It traditionally takes 5 to 10 years to bring a new vaccine to market for the public use. New vaccines have to be rigorously tested on thousands of people. The people who enter the clinical trials and receive the vaccine then have to be followed for several years to determine the vaccine's effectiveness and to see if there are any long term adverse effects from the vaccine.

The Covid-19 vaccines have not been studied properly. There has not been any 5 year clinical trials. We do not know if there will be long-term side effects from receiving this vaccine. Children rarely get Covid-19 and if they do, it is usually a mild case. There is no emergency to get all children vaccinated against Covid-19.

It is wrong to mandate vaccines that have not been put through rigorous clinical trials. It is wrong to mandate vaccines without knowing the long-term side effects. All the people who have received the Covid-19 vaccines up to this point actually are the trials. They have not been properly followed nor have the adverse effects been thoroughly documented.

I, personally, do understand how a drug comes to market and the meticulous documentation that is required. I was involved in gathering the data to bring a new drug to market 30 years ago. This drug was thoroughly studied back in the 1990's and is widely and safely used today. There are many drugs that appear to be wonderful, but after several years of use the drug company finds that the "rare" adverse effect during the drug's clinical trials, isn't that rare after all. A black box warning has to be put on the drug and it is often pulled from the market afterwards.

We do not want to harm the children. You can not take the vaccine out of them once it is injected and interacting with their immune system.

HB 2498 must be passed to protect the children who can not speak for themselves. Covid-19 vaccinations should not be made mandatory for children to enter schools or daycares.

Sincerely, Katherine Taber, PharmD Newton, Harvey County House District 72