

HCS HB 838 -- COVID-19 VACCINATION

SPONSOR: Lewis (6)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Special Committee on Small Business by a vote of 10 to 5.

The following is a summary of the House Committee Substitute for HB 838.

This bill prohibits a public employer from requiring any public employee or person entering a public building to receive a COVID-19 vaccination and prohibits political subdivisions from adopting any ordinance, rule, or regulation that requires a public employer to implement a policy that violates these provisions.

The following is a summary of the public testimony from the committee hearing. The testimony was based on the introduced version of the bill.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that the bill will prohibit public employers from requiring people to get the COVID-19 vaccination. Requiring vaccinations goes against HIPPA rights to privacy.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Lewis; Arnie C. Dienoff; and Jennell Houts.

OPPONENTS: Those who oppose the bill say that the bill strips away a business's right to have employees vaccinated and is dangerous and counterproductive. This sets an incredibly poor example and will lead to increased COVID-19 cases and deaths.

Testifying against the bill were Chandler Shipp; Paul Leykamp; Sarah Mayer; and the Missouri Center For Public Health Excellence.

Written testimony has been submitted for this bill. The full written testimony can be found under Testimony on the bill page on the House website.