Roger Orcutt

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Ex. 105 CMR 130, Hospital Licensure – Vaccination Requirements

Dear Department of Public Health,

I write to you today as someone who has worked in healthcare for 13+ years and seen friends’, families’, and coworkers’ lives destroyed by these meaningless healthcare vaccine mandates being handed down from governmental entities. There seems to be a large gap between policies being created and how they are actually implemented by the large hospital entities. Let me start with a personal story to explain my experience.

I work in one of the larger hospitals in Boston and my job is 100% remote. I NEVER have to go into the hospital or an office. Even though common sense should state that I should be exempt from the vaccine mandates… I am not. For both the original vaccine and the booster, I was threatened with my job and if I did not comply, I would be fired. I submitted a religious exemption and it was denied. I had 1 week to get the vaccine, or I would lose my job. Period.

When I read policy in the proposed legislation that states: (130.32 Section B):

**Each hospital shall ensure all personnel have received COVID-19 vaccination in the timeframe specified in Department guidelines, unless an individual is exempt from vaccination in accordance with 105 CMR 130.326(E).**

The reality is the hospital system simply threatens to fire the individual rather than dealing with the mitigation measures. Everyone I know has had their exemptions denied and either was fired, forced to be vaccinated against their will, or found employment elsewhere.

There seems to be a loss of common sense when looking at population health issues from a governmental level. Younger adults and children have little to no benefit from the COVID and influenza vaccinations. I would argue that there is actually more risk to these individuals from vaccine induced issues than lives that are saved from administering these vaccinations. Please note that I specifically call out THESE vaccinations, not all vaccinations. I am not against vaccinations… I am against THESE vaccinations in healthy, young individuals as they have little to no benefit to this population. These vaccination requirements also do not account for natural immunity, which almost everyone should have up to this point.

At a time where there is a lack of healthcare workers in Massachusetts, the very last thing you should be doing is driving away the young, healthy healthcare workers to places outside of Massachusetts. As I am primarily in Healthcare IT, I could simply get a job in the next state over, as remote work in prevalent in my industry. I would much rather stay employed in the system that directly cares for my family, my friends, and myself than improve healthcare in other states.

I end my testimony with the single, most influential phrase I have learned working in healthcare: “The patient must voluntarily consent to any healthcare interventions, tests, treatments or procedures and it is the right of the patient to decide whether to undergo the recommended intervention.” When the government forces an individual to undergo vaccination, allows businesses to reject exemptions for no reason, and threatens the individual with their job and livelihood, it is no longer a choice, it is coercion.

Thank you for taking the time to read my testimony, and I hope you reject the proposed legislation related to vaccination requirements for hospitals.

Sincerely,

Roger Orcutt