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RE: Support HB 4667

This much needed bill will protect the very values that Republicans, Democrats, and indeed all Americans hold sacred: the protection of Human Rights and Responsibilities.

The very idea of vaccine passports is problematic on so many levels.

Vaccine passports would:

- Violate health privacy laws (HIPPA) and personal protection rights (4<sup>th</sup> Amendment)
- Discriminate against those who have health concerns, matters of conscience, or any other number of good reasons to avoid a vaccine or avoid disclosing one's vaccination status
- Create a manufactured apartheid that will essentially subjugate, limit movement, and limit pursuit of economic and other opportunities for anyone who is unable or unwilling to get such a vaccine passport
- Violate ethical boundaries – Especially with a covid-19 passport, ***multiple ethical boundaries would be crossed*** (including but not limited to: the violation of informed consent by the aggressive coercion tactics that are rampant with the current EUA covid-19 vaccines; the complete bypass of the doctor-patient relationship and abrogation of any fiduciary duty by those who mandate the vaccine; the lack of clarity/ transparency/ and accountability surrounding these EUA covid-19 products; the lack of personal and public health consideration of risks/ benefits/ and options; and not to mention the current impossibility of honest inquiry and discussion on these matters.)

Again, please pass HB4667 prohibiting vaccine passports.

Undermining human rights and undermining matters of conscience ***necessarily*** undermines human health and public safety.

Thank you,



Dalinda B. Reese



# VACCINE PASSPORTS

## 7 KEY POINTS

If widely instituted, they will quickly create a two-tiered, caste-like society of haves and have-nots and desirables and undesirables. Segregation, which this country fought for so long to abolish, will once again be rampant.

### 1. MICHIGAN RESIDENTS OVERWHELMINGLY OPPOSE COVID-19 VACCINE PASSPORTS

- Although many Michiganders have made the choice to take the COVID-19 vaccine, a recent poll by MRG found 71% of Michigan residents oppose a COVID-19 vaccine mandate and 66% oppose a COVID-19 vaccine passport.<sup>1</sup>
- 43% of Democrats, 91% of Republicans and 68% of Independents are against a COVID-19 vaccine mandate.

### 2. REQUIRING A CITIZEN TO DISCLOSE OR DISPLAY THEIR HEALTH INFORMATION, INCLUDING VACCINATION OR IMMUNITY STATUS, VIOLATES THEIR RIGHT TO PRIVACY

- The 4<sup>th</sup> Amendment protects the right of citizens to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures.

### 3. FEDERAL LAW DICTATES THAT THE HEALTH STATUS OF AN INDIVIDUAL IS PRIVATE AND CANNOT BE USED TO SEGREGATE OR DISCRIMINATE.

- People with HIV/AIDS or Hepatitis B, serious communicable diseases, are protected from discrimination by employers, places of public accommodation, and state and local government entities based on their health status.
- A COVID-19 Passport accomplishes exactly what these federal laws protect against.

### 4. A COVID-19 VACCINE PASSPORT MAY SERVE TO PERPETUATE INEQUALITY IN MARGINALIZED POPULATIONS.

- People may choose not to receive a COVID-19 vaccine for many reasons, such as cultural, religious, medical, racial, socioeconomic, etc.
- With a COVID-19 Passport, comes increased monitoring and increased policing which increases the risk of profiling and potential harm to racial, sexual, religious, and/or other minority groups. The ACLU has also warned that vaccine passports stand to disproportionately harm the most vulnerable members of society -- failure to comply could mean starvation, homelessness or the inability to receive needed medical care.<sup>2</sup>

### 5. IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO KEEP A DIGITAL COVID-19 VACCINE PASSPORT SAFE FROM SECURITY BREACHES OR MISUSE OF AN INDIVIDUAL'S PERSONAL INFORMATION

- Privacy and cryptographic experts have critiqued the Excelsior Pass being used in New York, stating the privacy policy indicates that nothing would prevent the information from being used by police or other government agencies.<sup>3</sup>

### 6. LIMITING A PERSON'S MOVEMENT AND PUBLIC ACCESS ON THE CONDITION OF RECEIVING AN INVESTIGATIONAL, UNLICENSED PRODUCT IS UNPRECEDENTED

- At this time, the FDA has not approved or licensed any COVID-19 vaccine; it has authorized the use of only three investigational COVID-19 vaccines under an Emergency Use Authorization.

### 7. MANY STATES AND ORGANIZATIONS ARE OPPOSED TO THE USE OF VACCINE PASSPORTS

- The Biden Administration, Florida, Texas, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, Georgia, South Dakota, WHO, ACLU, Aviation Industry, Association of American Physicians and Surgeons

# PUSHBACK AGAINST BANNING THE USE OF VACCINE PASSPORTS

1. WE REQUIRE VACCINES FOR SCHOOL AND ALWAYS HAVE, WHATS THE DIFFERENCE?
  - a. Although certain vaccines are required for school, Michigan has always had exemptions available for medical, religious or philosophical reasons. In essence, Michigan has never had mandatory vaccinations for school children.

## 2. VACCINE PASSPORTS ARE REQUIRED TO TRAVEL INTERNATIONALLY, WHATS THE DIFFERENCE?

- a. While vaccine records may be a requirement for international travels where infectious diseases are common, this is as a safeguard for the traveler.
- b. Travel to other countries means acquiescing to THEIR laws which have different or no Constitutional protections. The U.S. does not require proof of vaccination to enter America.
- c. Vaccine passports are now being touted as a requirement for living a life within the country, *our own country*. This is un-American.

## 3. PREVENTING THE PRIVATE SECTOR FROM USING VACCINE PASSPORTS VIOLATES FREE MARKET PRINCIPLES OR PRIVATE PROPERTY RIGHTS

- a. Every citizen has the fundamental right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.
- b. Every citizen has the right to public accommodations so they can move freely about society, work, shop and take care of their needs.
- c. Neither government or business should require mandatory vaccine passports. Private medical records are none of their business. It is not a "private property right" to demand the private medical records of citizens.
- d. For certain people, there may be no other option but large chain stores. If a vaccine passport is required to buy groceries, supplies, or get prescriptions this is an indirect way of mandating the vaccine. It is coercion and a violation of the right of conscience. The private sector then becomes the enforcement wing of indirect vaccine mandates just so citizens can participate in society. This is wrong and needs to be stopped at every level.<sup>4</sup> One's life could essentially be 'shut down' if one does not acquiesce to getting vaccinated in order to obtain a vaccine passport. For example, for single mothers, pregnant women, minorities and the economically disadvantaged, failure to comply could mean starvation, homelessness or the inability to receive needed medical care.
- f. If they can demand this particular vaccine, where does it end? There are many communicable diseases out there that we don't screen for or demand proof of immunity. Businesses are regulated every day and have never had the authority to discriminate, segregate or otherwise chastise members of society based on their medical decisions.
- h. If the vaccine works, those vaccinated shouldn't worry about the unvaccinated. If businesses are worried about liability, perhaps having customers sign a waiver would be less invasive.

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.mrgmli.com/2021/03/25/michigan-residents-overwhelmingly-oppose-covid-vaccine-mandate/>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.action.org/news/privacy-technology/theres-a-lot-that-can-go-wrong-with-vaccine-passports/>

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.wgiz.com/article/tech/privacy-advocates-demand-more-information-on-new-york-state-excelsior-pass/21-955c3420-b27b-402c-8500-aedaa6c12d9a>

<sup>7</sup> <https://themissouriimes.com/opinion/on-vaccine-passports/>

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