

I am a homeschooled, high school student in Montgomery County. I have chosen to remain unvaccinated for religious reasons. Through the pandemic, I have seen COVID-19 and its variant's effects in my community.

The COVID-19 vaccines are being used as status symbols among teenagers now and as a way to discriminate against people who have different opinions or religious beliefs. It is not easy to stand up for our beliefs as teenagers and you are encouraging this kind of discrimination against us. Your law would not reward people with health and safety but with social privileges for doing what you want.

If this piece of legislation passes, I, simply because I did not want to get vaccinated because I have serious religious objections to, will not be allowed to keep my job, stay in my extracurricular activities or be an active member in my community. All of these things are necessary to my being able to prepare and go to college in the very near future. You would be helping to destroy my future all because I used my God-given right to choose what I did and didn't want to be put into my body. And it is not just me you will be hurting, it will affect my entire generation and definitely the businesses which will have to enforce your unnecessary policies. Not to mention the mental strain people that are cast out of their community for following what they think is right will feel. It will show them that their community leaders do not respect their rights. If you all truly care about the well being of the people and businesses in your county, you will not pass this piece of legislation.