



Wisconsin United For Freedom takes a STRONG and UNWAVERING stance AGAINST “Vaccine Passports,” as well as DISCRIMINATION based on medical vaccination status.

The Washington Post has recently announced that the Biden Administration has begun to work with private companies to develop “vaccine passports,” which companies could require as proof of vaccination before opening their doors.ⁱ

The idea of Vaccine Passports, or having to show proof of vaccination to gain access to businesses or government agencies to receive goods and/or services, goes against medical freedom and medical choice. Not only does requiring proof of vaccination go against medical choice, it goes against the idea of informed consent. According to the American Medical Association website, “Code of Medical Ethics Opinion 2.1.1, ‘Informed consent to medical treatment is fundamental in both ethics and law. Patients have the right to receive information and ask questions about recommended treatments so that they can make well-considered decisions about care. Successful communication in the patient-physician relationship fosters trust and supports shared decision making.’”ⁱⁱ

The definition of *coercion* is “the use of express or implied threats of violence or reprisal (as in discharge from employment) or other intimidating behavior that puts a person in immediate fear of the consequences in order to compel that person to act against his or her will.”ⁱⁱⁱ Coercion, especially when it comes to medical decision making, should have no place in a free society. Individuals and parents should have the right to decide which medical procedures they wish to participate in, if any, and which medical procedures they wish to forgo. Informed consent is imperative to fostering a trusting relationship between patients and their health care providers. Coercive practices will only continue to put a wedge between patient and healthcare provider, and will completely undermine the trust between the two. Health care providers are not the authority – they should be viewed as a *partner* to the patient.

Businesses or government agencies should not have undue influence over those decisions. Additionally, the privacy of medical records is something Wisconsin United For Freedom takes very seriously. Businesses or government agencies should not be able to demand your medical records to participate in society. We should not have to “show our papers” in order to purchase goods and services from our fellow Americans. The 14th Amendment also states, “No state shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any state deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.” **Wisconsin United For Freedom supports the Constitution in its entirety, and we also support legislation that prohibits vaccine passports, coercive vaccine policies, discrimination based upon vaccine status, among other coercive or discriminatory policies. We encourage all Wisconsinites to reach out to your state legislators and encourage them to sign on to and support any such bill. We also thank the legislators that have already taken steps to push protective legislation forward.**

ⁱ Diamond, Dan, et al. “Vaccine passports’ are on the way, but developing them won’t be easy.” The Washington Post, March 28, 2021, <https://tinyurl.com/4v4dddtn>, Accessed 30 March 2021.

ⁱⁱ <https://www.ama-assn.org/delivering-care/ethics/informed-consent>

ⁱⁱⁱ “Coercion.” *Merriam-Webster.com Dictionary*, Merriam-Webster, <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/coercion>. Accessed 1 Apr. 2021.