

On page 1, line 1, of the Introduced bill, delete "prohibit obtaining an individual's COVID-19 vaccination status without the consent of the individual" and insert "protect an individual's conscience from entities requiring the COVID-19 vaccine"

On the Introduced bill, delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

"

Section 1. This Act shall be referred to as the COVID-19 Vaccine Freedom of Conscience Act.

Section 2. That a NEW SECTION be added to title 34:

For the purpose of this Act, the term, conscience, means a person's inner conviction of what is right or wrong in the person's conduct.

Section 3. That a NEW SECTION be added to title 34:

A person has the right to be exempt from any COVID-19 vaccination mandate, requirement, obligation, or demand on the basis that receiving a COVID-19 vaccination violates the person's conscience. A person may exercise the right to be exempt under this Act orally or in writing.

Section 4. That a NEW SECTION be added to title 34:

No person may be subjected to any disciplinary action; being terminated, demoted, or losing employment status in any way; loss of student status, including status in a particular study program; nor may any person be denied access to any business premises as a result of the person's decision to decline to receive a COVID-19 vaccination on the basis of conscience.

Section 5. That a NEW SECTION be added to title 34:

Any entity or agent of any entity that mandates or requires any person to receive a COVID-19 vaccination or conditions any person's job or student status upon receiving a COVID-19 vaccination must inform the person of the right to the conscience exemption under this Act.

Section 6. That a NEW SECTION be added to title 34:

A civil action for damages or injunctive relief, or both, may be brought by any person for any violation of any provision of this Act. A person aggrieved by any violation of this Act who commences a civil action is entitled, upon the finding of a violation, to recover threefold the actual damages sustained, along with the costs of the action and reasonable attorney's fees.

Section 7. That a NEW SECTION be added to title 34:

A health care facility, as defined in § 34-12-1.1, is exempt from this Act during any period of time that compliance would result in a violation of regulations issued by the centers for medicare and medicaid services or the centers for disease control and prevention."