

## HB22-1144 Naturally Acquired Immunity COVID-19

Wednesday, March 2 2022

Health & Insurance | 1:30 p.m. Room 0112

Testimony: Oppose

Madam Chair and fellow members of the Colorado House Health & Insurance Committee. The following comments are submitted on behalf of the Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce.

For 154 years, the Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce has been a leading voice for Colorado's business community, advocating for sound policy that strengthens our economy and makes our state the best place to live, work and do business.

We are writing today to express the Chamber's opposition to HB22-1144.

As you are aware, this bill requires an employer or a state agency that imposes a COVID-19 vaccine or testing requirement to allow a person subject to the requirement to instead provide documentation demonstrating that the person has naturally acquired immunity to the disease.

We firmly believe that businesses have the right to decide the best way to protect their employees. An employer's requirements may depend on the nature of the worksite and the likelihood of COVID-19 exposure. Ultimately, employers are responsible for the safety of their workers on the job.

Allowing a certain set of employees' different privileges and protections creates a logistical headache for many of the very businesses hit hardest by the pandemic. This proposed policy also allows employees to punish businesses for deciding the best way to protect their profits and private property. Mandating a one-size-fits-all approach on this issue takes away the ability for businesses to decide what is best for themselves and the health and safety of their employees.

We urge the members of the committee to vote no on HB22-1144.

Sincerely,

Adam Burg  
Vice President of Government Affairs  
Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce