

Dear Members of the Committee on Children,

I oppose any legislation that would restrict a parent's right to religious vaccine exemptions.

This legislation discriminates against families with sincere religious beliefs opposing the administration of one or more vaccines to their children.

This bill denies children with religious exemptions their educational right afforded to them by the Connecticut state constitution, which guarantees the right to religious practice.

God commands us that we are to regard our bodies a temples of God's Holy Spirit and that we are to honor God, our Creator and possessor of our very bodies by not defiling them (1 Corinthians 6:19-20 and 10:31).

Vaccines contain ingredients such as tissue from aborted human babies, tissue from pigs, tissue from monkeys, formaldehyde, aluminum, polysorbate 80 and other ingredients that are a defilement to the body.

The state has no compelling interest in approving this legislation other than to harass a protected group of people.

In addition, we have NOT had due process in the legislative process, and this bill goes against the rules that legislators have sworn to uphold.

We have no health emergency in CT. Children that the state is trying to protect and that are truly immunocompromised cannot attend public school or public places.

As for "herd immunity": Adults in our school systems are not vaccinated with most of the dozens of vaccines that children are given, and many of these vaccines shed and/or have waning efficacy over time.

Our tax dollars pay for public education, and, if the state is going to remove the religious exemption and not allow healthy unvaccinated children into school, then the state should be prepared to refund tax dollars as a result.

The current law is working just fine, and there is no need for the state to make this harder for parents.

While the state would like to say that removing the religious exemption does not mandate vaccines and that parents won't be forced to vaccinate their children against their beliefs, in reality thousands of parents that rely on the public school system and have jobs cannot homeschool their children.

It is my family's creed that vaccines are contrary to our First Amendment rights afforded to us by the U.S. constitution.

I urge you to oppose this bill. I thank you for respectfully adhering to the first amendment rights guaranteed to citizens by the United States of America's Constitution and reinforced on a state level by the fourteenth amendment without prejudice.

Sincerely,

Maria Hong
Westport, CT