

May 10, 2019

Dear Senators and Representatives of the Children's Committee,

I am writing as a concerned Christian parent whose **religion freedom regarding vaccination is in jeopardy**. There has been some very strong discussion about a "health crisis" and the need to enforce vaccinations, specifically removing religious exemptions in order to mandate vaccinations for school aged children. It has also been stated that, in addition to removing the exemption, anyone who does not comply with the vaccination schedule required, will **lose their right to a free public education and be forced to homeschool**.

I have yet to see this "health crisis" that even warrants a whisper of removing civil liberties that have been the bedrock of this country. It is known that **herd immunity is a myth!** We have not had any major outbreaks. The **3 CT cases are ADULTS, not children**. Even if a health crisis were to occur, taking such a stance should be done with great caution as freedoms are what make America a wonderful country, not a dictatorship. Further, I am appalled that this **"hearing" on Monday is not an official hearing**, there is no bill to reference my testimony to protect my religious freedoms, and this whole removal of the exemption is **NOT going through proper procedure and channels. What happened to a democratic government that listened to its people?! Especially when an attempt is being made to take away religious freedoms?**

As a Christian, my stance is pro life. I will not support an industry that utilizes cells from aborted fetuses. God has also entrusted me with the protection of my child and putting her in harm's way is sinful. There is a risk with vaccinations (as stated in their inserts) and risks outweigh the benefits. People are created in the image of God and all life has sanctity. It is not only a fundamental belief of the Christian faith but many other religions that are looking at their first amendment right being stripped away if such an exemption is removed. There is **NO SCIENTIFIC BASIS OR HEALTH CRISIS** for such an action!

My God, my choice. My child, my choice. Please protect our religious freedoms and civil liberties. Thank you for your time.

Regards,

Susan Madison

Torrington CT