

May 10, 2019

I respectfully ask you to read through my letter thoroughly and thoughtfully.

Voting Yes on the Bill to remove religious exemption for vaccination would be a human rights violation. A violation against our family whose foundation of life is based on our Faith in God. Faith that God made the human body to self-heal.

The bill amendment is discriminatory. We have no health emergency in CT. Deeply held religious beliefs are in jeopardy. Those that choose not to vaccinate are the minority and cause no risk to the public. If you want to address a public health crisis as it may arise...then do that, but don't remove a religious exemption for a "proposed" health crisis that doesn't exist. You would be forcing people unwillingly to go against their beliefs, forcing them to go against every ounce of their essence as a human being.

As a health care provider in this state for 23 years (Suzanne), as home owners, a tax payers and a registered voters...we ask you to carefully consider your vote. We ask that you vote NO and respect those who have a religious exemption to vaccination. Changing the laws will not change who we are and what we believe, it will only cause mahem, cause people to have to uproot their families and find somewhere else to live where they can honor who they are as a human being with a strong faith. Our family will not stay in this state if the laws change. My husband and I have lived here all of our lives (48 years), our extended families much longer than that. We are small business owners...productive and contributing to this state and would prefer to continue to stay here. Please vote NO to removing the religious exemption to vaccination.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Thomas J. Chester, Jr.

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