

6949

Dear Sen. Gerratana, Rep. Ritter and the Public Health Committee,

I oppose bill HB 6949: signing notarized forms that say I understand something medical has nothing to do with religious freedom. This bill asks people to make a secular argument for a religious exemption, which is like comparing apples to oranges.

It is my understanding that the state must show a compelling interest in overriding religious freedom. With a 98.53% vaccine compliance rate in the state of Connecticut, which is one of the highest, if not THE highest, compliance rates in the United States, and a roughly 1% vaccine exemption rate, I do not believe that the state of Connecticut has a compelling reason to override a religious exemption to vaccines.

I am completely opposed to this legislation and hope that you will oppose it.

Thank you for your service,

Maria Rickert Hong