

I am emailing you in regards to the proposed bill HB7005 that aims to eliminate the religious exemption for vaccination in CT. **I strongly ask that you oppose this bill.**

I understand that the topic of vaccines is very emotionally charged on both the "pro" and "anti" vaccine sides with discussions between the two groups often ending in heated arguments. There are arguments to be made for both sides, however I feel that in the case of HB 7005 we are dealing with a much more basic and fundamental aspect of American culture and society. The FIRST amendment of the constitution addresses this topic and outlines these freedoms very clearly. The freedom to choose ones religious beliefs is a big part of what makes America such a great place to live and HB 7005 threatens that fundamental freedom. It is also my belief that each individual has the right to choose whether or not to receive a medical treatment based on personal religious beliefs and the governing bodies should support that freedom at all cost.

Religion is a very personal and sometimes private to an individual or family. There should be no interference from our state or federal government in this matter. This bill is an example of legislative creep that will eventually require clergy members to sign religious exemption documents. This is clearly religious discrimination as not all religions have clergy members to sign such documents.

I do not find any problems with our current religious exemption process and feel there is no need to change it in any way.

It is my request that you is to strongly oppose bill HB7005 on the basis that it violates the first amendment. If you would ever like to discuss the vaccine topic please contact me at any time.

Thank you,

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