

Dear Esteemed Members of the Committee,

I am writing today to express my opposition to Raised HB 7005 **AN ACT PROHIBITING THE ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF PARENTAL STATEMENTS CONCERNING RELIGIOUS OBJECTIONS TO VACCINATION BY SCHOOL NURSES AND PERMITTING MEMBERS OF THE CLERGY TO ACKNOWLEDGE SUCH STATEMENTS.**

The wording of this bill is vague, and has the potential to be interpreted in a way that may not be currently intended. Any bill that takes aim at vaccine exemptions in the State of Connecticut will be an assault on our freedom, as parents, to make decisions for our children. Health choice, and freedom of religion are being taken away across the country, loss of parental rights is a constant threat. Please uphold our constitutional rights under the First, Fourth, and Fourteenth Amendments by withdrawing Raised HB 7005

This legislative change is unnecessary and inappropriate. The school nurse was added to protect sensitive health info, and adding clergy to "acknowledge" a signature on a religious exemption may cause confusion and is inappropriate.

Also, that there is concern that the bill may be used as a vehicle to restrict the religious exemption, in CT where we have one of the highest vaccination rates in the country.

I am concerned that language in this bill will be amended at a later date to remove religious exemptions and impact my ability to parent my child in accordance with our personal religious beliefs. The separation of church and state is one of the beliefs that this great country was founded on. It would be shameful to continue with support of this bill.

Thank you for your time,
Kelly A. Davis

