

February 5, 2019

Dear Children's Committee members,

I am writing to **OPPOSE** 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 PUBLIC TESTIMONY

I also **OPPOSE** the elimination of religious exemptions.

My religious beliefs prevent me from using products such as vaccinations, which contain many synthetic ingredients as well as aborted fetus cells and other harmful material. It is my right as an individual and parent to choose what medical procedures fall in line with my beliefs and are acceptable or not for my family. It is my right as a citizen of this country and the state of Connecticut to live my life according to my religious principles. Every year bills are introduced that would limit or make it harder to obtain a religious exemption, HB 7005 is one of them. I trust that my legislators will understand that this discrimination is unjust.

I strongly oppose the threat to my medical and religious freedom. Respectfully I am asking you to PLEASE eliminate this bill. I will pray that you keep the best interest of our freedoms when you make your decision.

Taking away our religious exemption is fundamentally wrong and against our First Amendment rights. To take the fundamental human right away to decide whether or not to accept any form of drugs or procedures is inhuman. Please take into consideration fundamental human rights and decisions that everyone deserves to make for themselves and their children. Informed consent is a freedom that should be respected. The thought of the government deciding that one size fits all and forcing it on people is not something that should not happen in a free nation!

In reaction to the testimony given by the AAP:

In light that the pharmaceutical companies are the American Academy of Pediatrics biggest sponsors, I ask that you strike their statement or weigh it lightly. It is an egregious conflict of interest for the American Academy of Pediatrics to speak on behalf of our religious exemptions. The Academy of Pediatrics (created in 1930) was an "independent" forum for the health and well-being of our children. However, this is no longer the case. Their corporate Friends of Children Fund members include Pfizer, Sanofi Pasteur (The vaccine Sanofi-Aventis group,) Merck, GlaxoSmithKline, and Johnson & Johnson.

Sincerely,

Jennifer K.
New Haven County, CT