

Esteemed Members of the Children's Committee,

I am writing to request that you please OPPOSE HB-7005.

The form and process as it exists today to file a religious exemption works. By introducing clergy to the process and removing school nurses from the process, medical privacy is at risk. It is not necessary for clergy to know someone's medical choices. When a school nurse takes in a form, the school nurse acknowledges that the parent/guardian submitting the form is who he/she/they say that they are and that is it. A school nurse accepting the form is in no way accepting or judging a belief - he/she/they is only confirming identity.

Freedom of Religion is a basic right in America. Please uphold this basic right in Connecticut.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Andrea Maloney
Newtown, CT