

Dear Members of the Public Health Committee,

I am writing to ask you to oppose SB-94, AN ACT ALLOWING PHARMACISTS TO ADMINISTER THE INFLUENZA VACCINE TO CHILDREN TWELVE YEARS OF AGE AND OLDER.

Pharmacists are necessary to dispense pharmaceutical products that have been prescribed by a medical doctor who has assessed the patient's health including but not limited to the patient's individual as well as family histories, current symptoms, past adverse reactions to medications and past major health issues. Vaccines are medical interventions that should not be administered to children without having this history present. Bypassing a visit to the child's pediatrician in order to make the process of getting the vaccine more convenient is a slippery slope that may lead to more incidence of vaccine injuries. Pharmacists are not equipped to respond and treat an adverse reaction. I understand that the incidence of shoulder injury from vaccine administration (SIRVA) has been rising over the past year and wonder if there is a correlation in this rise in SIRVA and the administration of vaccines by inadequately trained vaccine providers.

As a parent, I am concerned with where this bill may lead. Any medical interventions for minor children must be undertaken only if the parent or legal guardian has weighed the potential risks and benefits.

Please join me in opposing this bill.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.

Respectfully,

Catherine A.

Fairfield County, CT