

Good evening esteemed members of Connecticut's Public Health Committee,

I am writing in opposition of Raised S.B. No. 94 - AN ACT ALLOWING PHARMACISTS TO ADMINISTER THE INFLUENZA VACCINE TO CHILDREN TWELVE YEARS OF AGE AND OLDER

Please oppose this bill. I am a concerned grandparent that doesn't want my grandchildren walking into a CVS to get a snack and walk out with a flu shot.

Pharmacists, also known as chemists or druggists, are health professionals who practice in pharmacy, the field of health sciences focusing on safe and effective medication use. It is not within their wheelhouse to administer vaccines to children, that is the pediatrician's job.

The statement of purpose for this bill is defined as "to reduce the costs of and expand access to the administration of the influenza vaccine for minors" - so we are more concerned about making sure that more children get this particular vaccine and the state spends less money? Shouldn't your focus be on making sure that more children are healthy? Being that over 54% of children now suffer from some type of chronic health issue, I think that this is a very dangerous move. Pharmacists are not trained to deal with chronic health issues or adverse reactions - they are not doctors, they are pharmacists.

Please oppose this bill.

Sincerely,

Teri Chlapecka