

Dear Public Health Committee Members,

As a lifelong resident of Connecticut and the mother of 3 minor children, I am writing to submit testimony IN OPPOSITION to proposed bill SB-94, AN ACT ALLOWING PHARMACISTS TO ADMINISTER THE INFLUENZA VACCINE TO CHILDREN TWELVE YEARS OF AGE AND OLDER.

It is my belief that parents and guardians are the ultimate decision makers for their minor child's health and medical choices, including vaccination. This proposed bill circumvents parental consent requirements and oversteps parental right to choose. Given that the US Supreme Court has ruled all vaccines "unavoidably unsafe" and based on the Vaccine Information Statement (VIS) outlining the possible adverse effects of influenza vaccination, we know this procedure is not without risk or consequence, up to and including death. Minor children do not have the capacity to understand the potential risks associated with all vaccines. For this reason, the decision to vaccinate for influenza must remain solely in the hands of the parents and guardians.

Please OPPOSE this bill.

In great appreciation of your consideration,

Becky Duff