

Dear Committee Members,

This is my testimony in opposition to SB 94, AN ACT ALLOWING PHARMACISTS TO ADMINISTER THE INFLUENZA VACCINE TO CHILDREN TWELVE YEARS OF AGE AND OLDER.

I oppose this bill for the simple reason that minors should not be making adult decisions about medical procedures without their parents' knowledge or consent. Parents, and no one else, are legally and financially responsible for their minor children.

It is important to note that vaccine manufacturers are not held liable for any injuries or deaths resulting from vaccines. NO ACCOUNTABILITY. Therefore, careful research with a mature mind needs to be done before giving informed consent for these products to be administered. In addition, Vaccine Information Statements are required to be given to parents before any vaccine is administered to a minor--something this bill neglects to recognize.

Who is behind this bill anyway? Are non-voting preteens writing and calling legislators in droves pleading for the right to get this risky, ineffective, liability-free vaccine behind their parents' backs? I doubt it.

Are the voting parents whom you represent begging you to pass laws undermining their relationship with their children and enabling their children to secretly undergo medical procedures which could result in illness or death with NO ACCOUNTABILITY by those responsible for allowing this, leaving their parents in the dark as to why their child was stricken? I doubt it.

That leaves the pharmaceutical companies which stand to profit handsomely from this bill. However, you are members of a Public Health Committee, not a Pharmaceutical Financial Health Committee. I urge you to consider the motive for this bill.

There is no compelling need for this bill. Parents can choose to get a flu vaccine for their child anytime--and it is the parent's choice until that child is 18. Our government should not be undermining the parental role by passing laws encouraging secrecy and lies, especially to promote a risky, ineffective, liability-free product.

I ask you to vote NO on SB 94.

Thank you,

Winifred Harrison
President, Connecticut Vaccine Rights League

