

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

While I understand that pharmacists are currently allowed to administer flu shots to adults, children's anatomy is vastly different than that of an adult. Children's care belongs in the hands of their parents, under their pediatrician's recommendation. The most frequently compensated vaccine injury, according to VAERS (the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System) as can be found on the CDC website, is shoulder injury from improper vaccine administration (SIRVA). Can you imagine the number of shoulder injuries that will result if this bill passes? Imagine how many children will miss school, sports practices, games, etc. Pharmacists are not trained in the same way as medical doctors and nurses, and they are certainly not equipped to handle any adverse reactions that will occur if this bill passes.

Since the law requires a physician's prescription for the flu shot, how is this expanding access if a parent already has to take the child to the doctor to get the prescription? A parent would then need to go both to the doctor's office and the pharmacy? How is that more convenient? Please keep these practices of administering vaccines for children where they belong, in a medical doctor's office.

Signed,

A concerned father

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