

Dear Distinguished Members of the Public Health Committee,

I am writing to express my **STRONG OPPOSITION** to SB 94 An Act Allowing Pharmacists to Administer the Influenza Vaccine to Children Twelve Years of Age and Older

Per the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986, prior to a child receiving any vaccinations, a parent or guardian is to be given a Vaccine Information Statement, outlining the benefits and risks to the vaccine being given. As this document is written at a 10th grade reading level, a minor may or may not be able to comprehend the information on this statement, and the pharmacist providing the vaccine may not know the child well enough to be aware if that comprehension is there. Additionally, many pharmacies offer incentives to the customers that come in for vaccines, in many cases gift cards. The offer of money to spend could entice a child who may not have money to spend on the items that they want, and they may be more likely than an adult to disregard any vaccine risks listed in order to get the gift card.

There are anatomical differences between an adult and a child, and the pharmacist may not be aware of this or have been given training to properly inject a child.

In addition, the US Supreme Court has ruled that vaccines are “unavoidably unsafe,” and as such, parents should be informed and have the ultimate decision on whether their minor children should be subjected to the risks that come with any vaccination.

Again, I urge you to **OPPOSE** SB 94, and protect a parent’s right to choose for their child.

Respectfully,

Amy M.
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