

Dear Distinguished Members of the Public Health Committee,

I sincerely thank you for your time in reading through the testimony for this public hearing. I can only imagine how cumbersome of a task that is. I am writing to **oppose SB94: AN ACT ALLOWING PHARMACISTS TO ADMINISTER THE INFLUENZA VACCINE TO CHILDREN TWELVE YEARS OF AGE AND OLDER.**

A few of my concerns are outlined below.

- I am concerned that this act would allow pharmacists to administer the vaccine without parental consent. As a family, we make all healthcare decisions together.
- While I already believe it is out of the scope of practice for a pharmacist to administer vaccines to anyone, I am particularly concerned about administration to children. Children have growing bodies with anatomy which is vastly different from that of an adult. Even if properly trained, children are best provided care from a pediatric doctor.
- I am concerned about liability and responsibility for the following scenarios...What if a child is enticed by the many incentive programs such as winning a free iPad, so he foolishly hops around from pharmacy to pharmacy to receive multiple drawing opportunities? What if that same child is injured due to the multiple doses received? What if a child is administered a vaccine and goes into anaphylaxis?
- I think about my son in particular due to the severity of his life-threatening allergies and severe asthma. Without a complete and accurate health history, someone could quite literally kill him. While my son is quite articulate, he should certainly not be expected to recall all of the details of his health history. As with many adolescents, they often forget what they did five minutes prior let alone any pertinent medical information.
- Similar to another proposed bill (SB858), I am concerned about how this conflicts with the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986 which states that parents must be given the Vaccine Injury Statement for all vaccines given to a minor.
- Having been an educator, school administrator, having a background in psychology, and now being a parent, I can attest firsthand to the fact that children do not possess the cognitive ability to make rational decisions at this young age. I think about all the things which we do not allow them to do at this age such as: drive a car, vote, drink alcohol, gamble, etc. I am sure that you will read through a great deal of testimony so, in my effort to be mindful of your time, I simply urge you to not allow this bill to advance. I oppose SB 94. I sincerely thank you for your time and attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Gabrielle S.
Fairfield County