



ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS, INC.

1601 N. Tucson Blvd., Suite 9
Tucson, Arizona 85716
(800) 635-1196
(520) 326-3529 FAX
www.aapsonline.org

The Voice for Private Physicians Since 1943

May 9, 2017

To Ohio Legislators:

AAPS Supports HB 193

The Association of American Physicians and Surgeons supports HB193 to protect the rights and autonomy of employees and individuals from annual employer-mandated influenza vaccination, which is a direct violation of an employee's right to informed medical consent. AAPS represents thousands of physicians in all specialties and every state in upholding the traditional patient-physician relationship.

Mandatory influenza vaccination policies were the result of an arbitrary influenza vaccine coverage goal of >90% arbitrarily set by the Healthy People 2020 federal government group, in conjunction with directives initiated by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. This federally imposed goal without any evidence-based science or documentation of hospital-acquired influenza infections was further advanced and financially incentivized by the withholding of federal reimbursement funds from the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services if the entities failed "to report" their respective coverage goal. Then there was the influence of the subsequent imposition of accreditation standards to further affect the mandatory influenza vaccination.

Any invasive medical procedure has risks. There is well documented evidence by the CDC of vaccine injuries including death. The patient's right of informed consent, which includes the right to withhold consent, is an essential civil liberty. When government or another entity is allowed to dictate medical decisions for us, we in essence surrender our human rights. That can easily lead to a slippery slope for humanity.

Sincerely,

Jane M. Orient, M.D.
AAPS Executive Director