

Testimony of Traci Kraft

Ohio House Committee

Re: House Bill 559

Opposition to proposed changes to immunization exemptions and tracking process

May 23, 2018

Chairman Huffman, Vice Chair Gavarone, Ranking Member Antonio, and honorable members of the Health Committee;

Thank you for allowing me to provide opponent testimony for House Bill 559. My name is Traci Kraft and I am from Kenton. I am here today to represent many in my community who oppose this bill. Though we come from many religious and philosophical backgrounds, we agree that our bodies do not require artificial immune activation via the injection of viruses that are grown on human and animal DNA, preserved with chemicals and adjuvanted with aluminum. Instead, we use a healthy lifestyle, cleanliness and nutrition.

I feel that I do not require a physician to tell me what I philosophically or religiously believe. This bill assumes that there is only one way to practice healthcare and prevention. The presumption appears to be that we, as parents, are unable to obtain, read or understand a vaccine insert, excipient table or peer-reviewed study and make decisions based on that data. This bill assumes that we should give up refraining from that which we find morally odious, such as the use of aborted humans to manufacture a product designed to be subcutaneously injected into a healthy, living child for the benefit of the theory of herd immunity or protecting the Immunocompromised.

My daughter was born with a brain malformation called Lissencephaly which causes severe physical and intellectual delays. Her life expectancy, at the time, was two years. It was a fight to have her naturally without drugs and to abstain from vaccines. I had not researched vaccines at the time; I just felt that it seemed dangerous to expose her to anything that had potential side effects, especially since she was very healthy and showing no signs on her condition. After five months of relentless bullying and threats from her doctors, I allowed her to receive the Dtap and the polio, which her pediatrician told me, were the most important. Within hours, she began to show odd behavior that we thought were ticks. This devolved into devastating seizures that, over time, robbed her of her voice, her smile and the use of her limbs. The medications that she was prescribed were equally horrible. One therapy in particular, called ACTH, suppressed her immune system, making her Immunocompromised. At no time did I expect anyone to vaccinate their child for the sake of mine. In fact, one of her outpatient instructions was to avoid contact with anyone recently vaccinated with a live virus due to shedding and asymptomatic carrying of the virus the person was vaccinated for. My child was more at risk of being handled by someone who did not wash their hands, which on more than one occasion; I had to remind doctors do before examining her, than someone who was unvaccinated, I tried to report the reaction and was shouted down and told it was a coincidence that she would "seize anyway" due to her condition. In fact, once the ACTH therapy was complete, the pediatrician resumed to hound me to vaccinate and ultimately kicked me out of the practice.

It has taken the past six years to recover my daughter's health and to find a new team of caring healthcare professionals who focus more on my child's health than vaccine uptake. The experience left me disillusioned. From that point on I read everything I could get my hands on about the safety and efficacy of vaccines. One item I came across was the package insert for the Dtap. One of the contraindications is "progressive neurologic disorders". It turns out that the Dtap is contraindicated for someone like my daughter. I can only assume one of two things: Our pediatrician did not read the insert before he implied that I would be guilty of child neglect if I did not submit her to this vaccine, or he knew it was contraindicated and did not care because she was "going to die anyway". "Going to die anyway" are the words

that I heard him tell his nurse outside the exam room when she complained that I had refused to vaccinate my already vaccine-injured daughter.

I am not a deeply religious person, but I model my lifestyle according to the teachings of Christ. My husband and I are educated and my mother in-law is a registered nurse. We are not crazy, uneducated anti-science maniacs, but thoughtful people who have a very high regard and respect for the complex and intricate design of our bodies. When I was directed to the CDC's excipients table by another mother of a vaccine-injured child, I was sickened to see what I allowed to be injected into my fearfully and wonderfully made little girl. It is hubris, in my opinion, to think that our creator somehow made our immune systems inferior and that the ONLY way to prevent disease is by injecting bovine extract, aluminum hydroxide, polysorbate 80, human diploid cells, monkey kidney cells and live and attenuated viruses. I believe that vaccines are the absolute bottom of the barrel in medicine and have only been allowed to reach its current state of credibility because the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986 has indemnified manufacturers and doctors of liability. In other words, doctors don't have to know the contraindications or adverse affects of vaccines because they are not accountable. I do not think I need to be "educated" by someone who has failed their first moral directive to do no harm, nor should I need their signature on any document to verify my child's right to participate in a public education.

I thank you very much for your time and attention.

Sincerely,

Traci Kraft