

February 24, 2020

Dear Senate committee members,

I am writing to encourage you to reject SCR10 OAC 3701-36-05. Using tax dollars to punish a county health department whose citizens decline a *liability free* pharmaceutical product is inappropriate and unethical.

A similar thing happened in the 1990's when the opioid makers convinced hospitals to make 'pain the 5th vital sign'. *Pain scores became a quality indicator for Medicare reimbursement.*

Hospitals hired pain monitors to make sure patients were giving enough pain medication. It did not matter if the patient went across the street and down the block to smoke a cigarette off hospital grounds, then came back and demanded an opioid. It did not matter if patients were having sex in their rooms. We were to give the medicine. Nursing judgement was forbidden. I am an RN with 35 plus years' experience. These were not some of my proudest days to work as a nurse. I knew this was wrong. And as you know, we are now in the mist of a huge opioid drug crisis that the medical field helped create.

Big pharmaceutical companies convinced the hospitals and medical personnel that opioids were safe and effective. This is nothing more than another attempt at the same playbook. The stakes are even higher today. These are children and this is a liability free product.

Using tax dollars to incentivize pharmaceuticals products is unethical.

Please vote no on this issue.

Sincerely,



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