



FINANCE – HEALTH AND MEDICAID
SUBCOMMITTEE

Witness Form

Today's Date May 19, 2017

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Organization Representing: self

Testifying on Bill Number: HB49

Testimony: Verbal Written Both

Testifying As: Proponent Opponent Interested Party

Are you a Registered Lobbyist? Yes No

Special Requests: _____

5-19-17 Testimony Regarding HB49

Chairman Hackett, Vice Chair Tavares, and members of the Senate Finance and Medicaid Subcommittee, thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in opposition to HB49 whereby a proposed amendment may be added that inserts the required consent of another person when a parent chooses an exemption for their child's immunization.

My name is Anthony E. DiBiase. I am a retired professional engineer and have studied vaccines for over 15 years. Without a formal, legal written power of attorney consent provided by an individual, I am opposed to any process whereby anyone else must sign off on a person's right to choose or not to choose an invasive medical procedure which includes a vaccination.

The existing Ohio Revised Code regarding immunization for children to attend school has gone through an exhaustive and rigorous evaluation. Any amendments that affect the intent of that Ohio Revised Code at the last minute of the state budget approval process is indicative of an attempt by parties to achieve a special and self-interest goal and to avoid a judicious review of the amendment by parents and minority groups who are negatively impacted. Such attempts at last minute of a busy and complex budget process ends up affecting the basic rights of parents and constituents unknown to them and without time to express their concerns to their respective district legislator. Such sneaking attempts are also indicative of parties who desire not to have the necessary scrutiny, the review and the interest of the people who live in Ohio.

No parent of a child should require the consent of any party including a physician or medical care provider to make decisions on an invasive medical procedure for their child. Many parents who have selectively chosen certain vaccines or no vaccines have done their own exhaustive review of the risks vs benefits and are more knowledgeable than many in the medical field who simply parrot the pharmaceutical influence. Many people in the medical field do not know about the National Child Vaccine Injury Act of the mid 1980's which shields vaccine manufacturer from product liability and that over \$3.6 billion dollars have been paid out by the National Vaccine Injury Compensation fund which is funded by a 75 cent excise tax on every vaccine sold. In addition, only a small percentage of the vaccine injuries are reported to the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS) which many health care providers are unaware of or chose not to report the adverse reactions because it is a voluntary system. This lack of knowledge by medical personnel is what triggers parents to do their own risk analysis of all vaccines. People ask the common sense question: **"If vaccines are safe, why do we have a vaccine injury compensation fund?"** That is why the more highly educated people are mostly the ones who choose some or no vaccines and do not want to incur the burden of more time and financial resources to comply with another requirement of the law in making decisions on immunization.

Right now in the medical profession, pediatricians receive a yearly financial reward from insurance companies if a specific combo vaccination percentage is achieved for their total number of patients. This puts the physicians in a position of financial interest. As result, pediatricians can be biased and have easily convinced the parent to have the child vaccinated by this personal conflict of interest. Pediatricians, who are presented with parents not wanting all of the combo vaccines, have then refused to further accept them as patients because it affects the specific combo vaccination percentage rate that must be achieved to get the financial benefit.

Once again, I urge you to oppose any proposed amendment that inserts the required consent of another person including a health care provider when a parent chooses an exemption for their child's immunization.

I thank you for the time to voice my opposition on such an amendment to HB49.

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