

**Testimony of Dr. Sherri Tenpenny, DO, AOBNMM, ABIHM  
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**In Opposition to House Bill 559**

**Submitted to Ohio House Health Committee  
May 21, 2018**

Upon review of this bill, it is one of the most oppressive attacks on parental rights that the Ohio Legislature has put forth to date.

If passed, Bill 559 will force responsible parents to submit to "vaccination education." Will this be similar to recent reports that more than 100 Christians were sent to "re-education" camps in China's north-western Autonomous Region to be taught to be loyal to the communist ideology? These camps are also referred to as "study centers" or "mind-transformation centers." (*REFERENCE: The World Watch Monitor, February 2, 2018. <https://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2018/02/china-100-christians-sent-re-education-camps-xinjiang>*)

Requiring Ohio parents, *United States citizens*, to seek an exemption from a "specifically trained physician" – who may be out of their insurance network and an inconvenient distance from their home – is akin to submitting to "re-education appointments" and "state tracking."

There is no doubt these physicians will only be knowledgeable about the information put forth by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and the very conflicted policies of the Advisory Committee of Immunization Practices (ACIP) and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC.) Quite frankly, how can YOU, our elected officials, possibly conceive that this is a good idea?

Parents who wish to exercise their right to refuse all or certain vaccines do not make this decision in a cavalier fashion. They have researched pros/cons. They understand that taking care of an unvaccinated child requires more attention to nutrition, health and wellness. These parents have chosen to **think for themselves** and not blindly follow a vaccination schedule advocated government agencies and their physicians. I can assure you that most physicians – and most nurses - have not received any detailed education about vaccines in medical/nursing school. AND most don't read the vaccine package inserts, required by the FDA to be available with each vaccine and medication, *to assure the vaccine is given appropriately and side effects are monitored.*

Obligating parents to seek out an appointment with a practitioner to be "educated" about only the benefits of vaccination – without also being told about the potential for serious side effects and including the risk of death - is completely against every Ohioan's personal rights and out of line with the exemption laws for our state.

How many of you, as state legislators, would want to be legislatively obligated to "re-education" appointments on topics in your chosen field? Why are you promoting policies to support politically motivated, pro-vaccine lobbyists and advocacy groups? There are no infectious epidemics in Ohio. This law is not only draconian, it is completely unnecessary. It only benefits the special interest groups and pharmaceutical companies who sell the vaccines.

Bill 559 is morally and ethically un-American and akin to communist indoctrination policies. The Chinese are "re-educating" Christians. After the fall of Saigon in 1975, Vietnamese government opened hundreds of "re-education" camps throughout the country to "teach citizens about the new (communist) government. Muslims in various countries around the world have been "interned and re-educated."

I am submitting this testimony in STRONG opposition to HB 569. DO NOT PASS this draconian legislation. I would be gladly be available to discussion this with each of you personally and submit documentation as needed.

Sincerely,

  
Dr. Sherri J Tenpenny, DO, AOBNMM, ABIHM