

Testimony Against bill S9

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To Senate Committee on Health and Welfare,

I strongly oppose bill S9, please include this as testimony against bill S9. Vaccination is a complicated and personal issue for families. Parents who choose to select and delay vaccinations do so with the best interest of their children in mind. Each of the vaccine package inserts comes with a long list of possible complications that can and do arise, and it is the right and responsibility of the parent to decide when it is not safe for their child to receive a certain vaccination. This decision may be made because an older child or parent suffered an injury from a vaccine, which is not considered grounds for a medical exemption. This decision may also be made because not enough research has been done as to why some children have more serious reactions to these vaccines than others, yet the process has been branded as “safe” for every child. Many parents question the safety of the manner the ingredients in vaccines interact with our bodily systems, including our brain. These include: aluminum, antibiotics, egg protein, formaldehyde, MSG, Thimerosal, Benzethonium Chloride, CTMB, Phenoxyethanol, aborted human fetal cells, Human Serum Albumin, as well as cow, monkey, and chicken cells. These adjuvants, chemicals, and DNA fragments are possibly one cause for the serious health problems children in our country are experiencing, including yearly increases in: auto-immune disorders, specific learning disabilities, attention deficit disorder, autism spectrum, SIDS, dementia, developmental delays, severe food allergies, and cancer. Do these children have a mild mitochondrial defect that causes them increased sensitivity to the vaccine ingredients? How can we test children to assure that they won't have an adverse reaction? Of course illness is a concern, but so are other health and developmental issues we are facing. This is not just a concern for parents, but for teachers and the community at large. With the tight school budgets in Vermont this needs to be considered with the vaccine debate!

Furthermore, should parents choose to vaccinate and witness their child suffer a reaction, or even die, the healthcare community has not been supportive in admitting that these children have suffered an adverse reaction and it is largely dismissed as a coincidence. This is in part due to the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act (1986), which exempts pharmaceutical companies and health departments from liability and holds taxpayers accountable for damages. As a taxpayer I am extremely unhappy with this; these children should be included in proper scientific studies to get to the bottom of why these vaccines are causing harm to some children and not

others. I find it disturbing that Vermont is considering removing exemptions and holding parents accountable for illness, and at the same time allowing the pharmaceutical companies and health departments continued immunity if children are harmed from these vaccines. This does not seem like it has children's best interests in mind, yet continues to give money and power to the pharmaceutical companies. For example, this year's flu shot has been proven to be only 23% effective by the CDC, yet you are considering mandating it without exemption? Vermont parents need to have the right to opt out of this and every vaccination and choose alternative methods to boost their children's immune system to fight against the flu and other illness; please have faith in Vermonter's ability for critical thinking and decision making. Please protect the rights of children and families and vote NO on S9!