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Kathy Cooper

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IRRC

From: Alice Uhrich <aliceuhrich@gmail.com>
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To: IRRC; Alice Uhrich
Subject: Non Immunized children 6-336-3146

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Hello

I am writing in regard to Annex A 11.20. Non-immunized children.

Under item (a) I notice the wording "may not" is used in reference to not being admitted to school. I was informed that may not is the strongest language telling schools non-immunized or under-immunized children will not enter school. When I first read it may not to me meant "well they may or may not be admitted" and in the district I am employed, there really is not support to exclude children under the previous provisional then exclude rules.

Today at a school nurse meeting as we asked about if the district will support this new law and exclude as of day 1 or day 6, our director told us she was informed that the Department of Civil Rights says we, a district, can't remove a child from education as it is their civil right. I would really like to see this addressed.

Every time we ask for support from our administrators we are always told you can't exclude, who will pay for the education for the special education kids while they are excluded.

I also notice under the old (c)] A child who has been admitted to school or permitted attendance in violation of this section may not be counted toward receipt of Commonwealth reimbursement for the period of the admission or attendance.

OK so I read this to my administrator today and told her that as school nurses we complete one immunization report a year. Each building does this, not a combined district like our Dept of Health report. I do realize that some district adjust information in that report so keep them in compliance.

I would like to know how the State Board of Education plans to enforce this violation and will know how many students are being allowed in to a district so the district will not receive reimbursement. I do not believe it would be fair to make the school nurse be the whistle-blower on their own district.

Someone needs to hold a school district's feet to the fire to make them comply and keep the children safe.

I look forward to seeing what turns our of the public meeting on April 20th and hope that there will be a watchdog that helps school nurses enforce this regulation.

Thank you so very much for the time you give to my concerns and comments. It is truly frustrating to be a medical professional trying to do the correct thing and being stifled by your superiors.

Alice