Jones, Stephanie

From:

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Sent:

Tuesday, May 03, 2016 1:47 PM

To: Subject: ED, State Board of Ed IRRC #2146&3147

Karen Molchanow Executive Director Department of Education MA 9- AVM 9

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I oppose IRRC #3146 & 3147.

As a mother to three children ages 4 and under, this proposed law would affect me in the future I have chosen to write in and voice my opinions. I hope you can take the time to listen and consider voting against IRRC #3146 & 3147.

This includes a new requirement to obtain proof from a doctor physician's assistant or nurse practitioner of natural immunity for chicken pox through having contracted the disease. This is terribly impractical for parents. First of all, bringing your sick child to the doctor's office will bring them in contact with other children, possibly even immunocompromised children, and seems irresponsible just to obtain proof of the disease.

Adding the meningococcal vaccine requirement for students entering 8th grade is unnecessary. The disease itself is very rare — the CDC says it's 0.3-0.5/100,000. There were only 16 new cases of meningitis in 2014. Vaccinating all of the seniors that year would have been a huge expense. The CDC says all serogroups of the disease are on the decline — including serogroup B — not even included in this vaccine.

I also oppose the addition of the pertussis vaccine for children entering kindergarten. The CDC and top doctors are verifying the lack of efficacy and the early waning of ANY immunity provided by this vaccine. The American Academy of Pediatrics published in February of this year that the Tdap provided some defense against pertussis the first year after vaccination but not much longer. This vaccine is currently under scrutiny from the medical community-- why make it another requirement?

Both the Tdap and Meningitis vaccines carry a risk of injury or death — this is acknowledged by the US Congress in 1986 when it passed the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act. This federal vaccine injury compensation program has awarded more than \$3.2 billion to those injured by vaccines or their families. This is enough reason for me to oppose another required vaccine before kindergarten.

I am against the proposition to eliminate separate listings of ingredients of the most common vaccine combination shots. Parents should have access to a list of all of the ingredients going into their child's body.

Thank you for listening.

Jennifer Buczynski