

3147

Kathy Cooper

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IRRC

**From:** M Smith <dwsmkcs@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 08, 2016 4:13 PM  
**To:** IRRC; ra-stateboardofed@pa.gov  
**Subject:** I am writing in regard to IRRC #3146 and 3147

2016 MAY -9 AM 9: 27

Dear Ms. Molchanow,

This letter is regarding proposed changes that would affect ALL Pennsylvania children.

It is unreasonable to change the provisional period from 240 days to just 5 days. That does not even give a parent enough time to schedule a Dr. appointment as most make you wait 1-2 weeks before they can fit you in to their schedules. A 90 day provisional period is much more logical.

Proof of natural immunity for chicken pox shouldn't have to be confirmed by a Doctor, PA or NP. Do you really want a child with chicken pox to have to go to a medical facility if you are so worried about them being contagious?

I strongly oppose the addition of the Meningococcal vaccine for students entering 12th grade. The risks of this vaccine far outweigh the benefits and parents should have the choice whether they subject their child to it. According to the CDC, the disease is extremely rare; but adverse reactions are not. Read the manufacturers' package insert to see all of the adverse reactions this vaccine can give to a child. According to the PA Department of Health EDDIE database, in 2014, there were only 16 new cases of meningitis. As the grandparent of a vaccine injured child I oppose additional vaccine mandates. You have no idea what child might be harmed by a given vaccine, when there is a risk of adverse reaction there should be a choice. Especially when the risk of the disease is so low. Also vaccinating the 140,000+ Pennsylvania seniors would be an unnecessary cost. If parents want it they should be able to choose it for their child, if they don't they should not be forced to get it. Earlier in this legislative session, a bill was introduced to mandate this vaccine and the legislators chose not to— why is the health department trying to circumvent the legislators on this matter?

I also oppose the pertussis vaccine for kindergarten admission. First off, you can't just get a pertussis vaccine it is a combo shot that has been known to have serious adverse effects on thousands of children. And this diphtheria/pertussis/tetanus vaccine has been shown to be ineffective anyway, why do you want to mandate a vaccine that doesn't work? Study any recent outbreaks in this country and the majority of those children were given this vaccine, sometimes multiple times – it has lousy efficacy rates.

I do think that all districts should use uniform language and should be required to include the 28 PA Code that explains that exemptions are available. That information should not be hidden from the public.

Thank you for your consideration,  
David Smith  
305 Swan Ave.  
Brownsville, Pa 15417