

## NATIONAL HEALTH FREEDOM ACTION

## We need to ALL stand together to protect Vaccine Exemption Rights now!

## This is a Human Right!

Parents are the rightful decision-makers for their children's healthcare. Please join us in protecting the fundamental right to decline or modify vaccines or other injections or treatments recommended by government for children.

Mass vaccination policies are made at the state level - where your action to protect your rights is urgently needed! Click On Your State Below NOW to defend the right to make informed, voluntary decisions about vaccinations. Join Washington, Oregon and Maryland in successfully convincing legislators to stop bills that would restrict the legal right to make voluntary choices about vaccinations. Click on Your State Below NOW to tell your legislators that the right and responsibility for making medical intervention decisions for preventative care for your family belongs to you!

Click on Your State to OPPOSE These Bills that would take away your rights:

**California** - Hearing 4/28

**Connecticut** 

Illinois

**Maine** 

Minnesota

North Carolina

**New Jersey SB 1147** 

New Jersey AB 1931

**Pennsylvania** 

**Rhode Island** 

**Texas** 

Vermont

California SB 277, eliminating personal belief exemptions to vaccinations, will be heard in the Judiciary Committee on Tuesday, April 28, 2015 at 1:30 P.M. in Room 112. SB 277 was amended and passed out of the Education Committee on Wednesday, April 22, 2015 on a vote of 7y:2n. The Education Committee heard SB 277 on April 15 but it postponed voting on the bill until April 22 to give Senator Pan more time to address several Senators' unresolved concerns. The amended bill now excepts pupils in a home-based private school and students enrolled in an independent study pursuant to specified law from the prohibition described in SB277. SB 277 passed the Senate Health Committee, 6y:2n, on April 8. Read the bill and check its status <a href="here">here</a>. <a href="here">Take</a>
Action Here.

<u>Connecticut</u> **HB 6949, restricting religious exemptions to vaccination**, was substituted in the Joint Committee on Public Health on March 18th. The current version of the bill still requires exemptions to be notarized, but the section requiring education has been removed. Read the current bill <u>here</u>. <u>Take Action Here</u>.

Illinois SB 1410, originally severely restricting religious exemptions to vaccination, was amended on the Senate Floor and was passed out of the Senate, 42y:14n, on April 23. The Senate floor amendment makes it clear that the bill does not give a health care provider grounds to determine a religious exemption but the bill still is mandating health care provider visits and education before using the exemption; read the floor amendment here. After the Senate Public Health Committee passed the bill on April 14, 2015 (6 yeas; 3 nays), the bill received its 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> readings. Now SB 1410 will head to the IL House. Read the senate bill here. Take Action Here.

HB 2560, now different from SB1410, would restrict the religious exemption to vaccination in IL by requiring parents present to the school authority a signed certificate detailing their grounds for objection to the immunization. The grounds for objection must set forth the specific belief that conflicts with the immunization. The certificate must also be signed by the health care provider and submitted every year. Philosophical and moral reluctance are not sufficient for an exemption. The local school authority would decide if the content of the certificate of religious exemption constitutes a valid religious exemption.

Maine LD 606 would eliminate personal belief exemptions to vaccination and was referred to the Health and Human Services Committee on 3/3/2015. Current law allows exemptions because of a person's philosophical beliefs from immunization requirements for students in elementary and secondary schools and postsecondary schools and employees of nursery schools and health care facilities. This bill would remove those exemptions. The bill also directs the Department of Health and Human Services to remove any immunization exemptions because of philosophical beliefs from its rules. The bill is sponsored by Rep. Ralph Tucker. Read the bill <a href="here">here</a>.

Take Action Here.

Minnesota SB 380/HB 393 would eliminate the conscientious belief exemption and replace it with a restricted personal belief exemption. SF 380 passed the Senate Health, Human Services and Housing Committee, as amended, on March 18 and was read a 2nd time on March 23, 2015.SF 380 is currently on general orders in the Senate and could be voted on any day. H.B.393/S.B 380 would require a person to obtain a statement from a physician that provides immunizations verifying that the physician has reviewed with the parent or guardian, or the child if emancipated, information about the risks and benefits of the vaccines that is consistent with information published by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Read the bill <a href="here.">here.</a>
Take Action Here.

New Jersey SB 1147, restricting religious exemptions to vaccinations, is still awaiting a Senate floor vote after passing out of committee on March 9. Both legislative chambers are currently on a budget break and so the earliest the Senate could vote on SB 1147 is May 18; the Assembly's next voting session is on May 14. Continue to contact your NJ State Senator and ask them to VOTE NO or ABSTAIN on S1147. Read the bill here. Take Action Here.

New Jersey AB 1931, restricting religious exemptions to vaccinations, passed the Assembly Health and Senior Services Committee, 9y:1n, on March 16 and is awaiting a full Assembly vote. Both legislative chambers are currently on a budget break and so the earliest the Assembly could vote on AB 1931 is May 14; the Senate's next voting session is on May 18. AB 1931 requires a written statement "explaining how the administration of the vaccine conflicts with the bona fide religious tenets or practices of the student, or the parent or guardian." As such it requires parents to explain and ultimately justify their deeply held personal and private religious beliefs to the government. Read the bill here. Take Action Here.

## North Carolina SB 346, eliminating the religious exemption to vaccination, died on April 2!

Congratulations North Carolina! The new law would have added new mandates for school children in NC. If this passed children would have been required to receive hepatitis A, hepatitis B, rotavirus, diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough, poliomyelitis, red measles (rubeola) and rubella. (rubeola), rubella, mumps, pneumococcal, influenza, varicella and meningitis vaccines, in addition to any other virus, disease, or condition against which the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommends. Current requirements do not include Hepatitis A, rotavirus, pneumococcal, flu or meningitis vaccines. Read the bill here. Take Action Here.

Pennsylvania HB 883, a bill to eliminate philosophical belief exemptions from vaccination requirements, was referred to the House Committee on Health on 4/6/2015. The current exemption law in PA includes an exemption for "on the basis of a strong moral or ethical conviction" in addition to religious beliefs. Read the bill here. Take Action Here.

Rhode Island SB 381 would eliminate religious exemptions to vaccination requirements. A hearing was held on SB 381 on 3/26/15 by the Senate Health and Human Services. The current status of the bill is that it is being held in committee for further study. Continue to contact members of the Senate Health and Human Services Committee and your own State Senator and ask them to oppose SB 381. Read the bill <a href="here">here</a>. <a href="here">Take</a>
Action Here</a>.

<u>Texas</u> HB 2006, a bill that would repeal conscientious and religious exemptions to vaccinations, was referred to the Public Health Committee on March 11. Read the bill here. Take Action Here.

<u>Vermont</u> HB 98 would eliminate philosophical belief exemptions to vaccination. On April 22, the Vermont Senate approved an amendment on HB 98 to remove the philosophical exemption to vaccination 18y:11n and then passed the bill out of the Senate on Third Reading by vocal majority (no roll call taken). Read the bill here. Take Action Here.

Additional bills relating to vaccination exemptions and immunization registries for you to support and oppose can be found at **NVIC.org**, <u>here</u>.

Stand Up in Your State Today! Schedule a face-to-face meeting with your state representatives. Find out who your Representatives are <a href="here">here</a>.



