

Joy Brewer

From: Mary Kortz <marykortz@ameritech.net>
Sent: Friday, May 26, 2017 10:53 PM
To: Joy Brewer
Subject: Support HB 4425 & 4426

Dear Representatives on the Education Committee,

As you undoubtedly heard at yesterday's hearing on HB 4425 & 4426, the administrative rule that requires a health department visit in order to obtain a vaccine waiver is not only poor governance under rule of law, violation of 1st amendment free speech (as it compels speech), and government overreach, it also fails to be the least restrictive means of obtaining a waiver.

When my son was injured by a vaccine in 2010, no one was there to help us. The doctor who authorized the vaccination that gave my son an ocular palsy did not want to continue seeing my son, unless we consented to more vaccinations. He actually told me that my son's vaccine injury was possibly a brain tumor (of course, it was not). We saw many specialists for many months. Since none of the doctors even initially would admit that my son's reaction was indeed a vaccine injury (even though it's onset was directly after the vaccination, and the injury was listed in the vaccine insert as a possible side effect), we were unable to file a VAERS report since the limitation on reporting had expired by the time I realized conclusively what we were dealing with.

The system of fear mongering about very benign infectious diseases (like measles- the complications of which would have been far less damaging to my son than the measles, mumps and rubella shot (MMR) which injured him) creates an atmosphere that is anything but "least restrictive", especially for a lifestyle that includes the major upheaval of caring for a now immuno-compromised, vaccine-injured kid.

Now I am required to attend a waiver session at the MDHHS that tells me about the benefits of the MMR vaccination that injured my son, without explaining the risks (just like the risks were never discussed at any of the vaccination doctor appointments for my kids). This violates the basic principle of informed consent at the doctor's office, and also is an insult to the title of "education session" that the MDHHS uses to refer to the waiver session meetings as the information is completely one-sided and biased.

The Kent County branch of MDHHS has also behaved unethically in conducting these waiver sessions. There are many testimonies of this. For mine, the MDHHS did not make it at all convenient to schedule an appointment. Both the phone hold time and the wait in the waiting room (even though we had a specific appointment time) was excessively long (much longer than the actual appointment, and well beyond the actual time our appointment was scheduled to begin). Once the waiver appointment started, the MDHHS employee commenced to question us unlawfully about our religious beliefs, and tried to dissuade us from obtaining a religious waiver. When we held our ground, she returned with a waiver that said "reason: doesn't want to talk about it". This was not what we had said; we had simply pointed out to the MDHHS employee that we were not obligated to explain our religious convictions to her. We had to turn that waiver in to our school, and that comment was not a kind or accurate translation of what we had communicated during the meeting. I hope you can see that the sum of this experience was NOT "least restrictive".

Please rescind the health department waiver administrative rule, and return to operating under the statutory law that WAS a much less restrictive way for me to obtain the necessary waiver for my children to attend school. I am seriously considering homeschooling at this point, in large part to escape the potential problems that the administrative rule has created, and in light of the problems HB 4425 & HB 4426 attempt to avoid, so my children's education will not be in constant threat of being disrupted.

And also, since I heard a lot of false information regarding the safety of vaccines at the hearing on Thursday, I would like to educate you on something: my children (and likely myself; thankfully I received far fewer vaccinations at a time than the glut of 8 doses in 4 vaccinations that my son received on the day he was injured) have a genetic condition that affects our ability to detoxify. This, obviously, makes vaccines a whole lot less "safe and effective" than ideal, and likely contributed to my son's injury. Genetics were not mentioned, thought of or considered at vaccination appointments (again, in violation of informed consent).

Please SUPPORT HB 4425 & HB 4426.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

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