

SB 879 Testimony – oppose

Sarah Cusack

I strongly oppose SB 879. While I do not understand the intricacies of this particular piece of legislation, I am familiar with another health fund, the Federal VICP, Vaccine Injury Compensation Fund.

The VICP fund was created in coordination with parents of injured and deceased children and was supposed to provide swift compensation to individuals with a documented vaccine injury. Instead it has turned into a nightmare. Families that file can expect 8-10 grueling years fighting for what they are rightly owed and may or may not be compensated at the end.

The fund is not well publicized. Most families of injured people have no idea that the fund exists, or how to file.

There are very strict conditions and time limits to file.

It is not a real court.

There is no precedent set. Each family has to start over with their own experts, scientist, and doctors.

There is a paltry maximum compensation for a deceased family member of only \$250,000.

The incentive for vaccine makers (Big Pharma) to keep their products safe has literally been removed. Innovation has been lost. It has clearly left an open door for this particular industry to behave poorly.

I am a pediatric Physical Therapist and worked for 10 years at the Kennedy Krieger Institute in Baltimore. I am familiar with how catastrophic birth injuries can be to a child and their family.

The right to be able to sue is an important one. Please do not protect hospitals over our children.

Thank You for reading and considering. I appreciate it.

Sarah Cusack, MPT