

UNFAV HB1135  
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### **UNFAV HB 1135 Health Occupations - Pharmacists - Vaccination Orders**

To Madam Chair, Health Committee and Committee Members:

I am writing to express my opposition to HB1135 Health Occupations - Pharmacists - Vaccination Orders that would allow pharmacists to order vaccines with the purpose of allowing "caregivers" to vaccinate others, including children. In this legislation, "Caregiver" is not well defined. Is that grandma, a babysitter, a teacher, camp counselor, etc?

Children already have access to receive vaccines at doctor's offices, where an experienced, trained doctor can also assess the child's health and how to safely administer vaccines. Pediatricians are specifically trained for this to reduce risk for serious harm or death. "Caregivers" are not trained in that capacity.

A reasonable conclusion is that mistakes will happen if "caregivers" are burdened with giving vaccines, despite their best efforts. In no way can a "caregiver" be deemed competent. We must not allow children to be endangered that way.

Influenza vaccines, COVID-19 vaccines, and any future vaccines required in the response to a public health emergency should only be administered by a doctor in the presence of a parent or legal guardian.

Further, what happens when there is an adverse reaction? Who is liable when mistakes are made? How will reliable vaccination records be maintained? How can we ensure children are not receiving multiple doses of the same vaccine or missing doses of needed vaccines?

A child's best health outcomes happen when the parent and pediatrician work as a team, taking into consideration the health history, precautions, and any contraindications before making any medical decisions.

I respectfully request that you NOT pass HB1135: Health Occupations - Pharmacists - Vaccination Orders forward for a vote.

Thank you,

Denee Daly  
Street, Maryland resident