HB 530: Health Occupations - Pharmacists - Administration of Vaccinations Margaret Stoklosa

Opposed

As a parent who wants the best health outcomes for my children, I am opposed to bills HB530/SB355. Pharmacists are individuals trained to dispense drugs, not make determinations whether a drug is necessary or not. Vaccines are drugs - they are controlled substances and not candy. Administration of these drugs should be done under a strict parent/physician relationship and not a haphazard approach. These substances require a full medical evaluation and pharmacists are not trained to provide this service. More and more pharmacies are also marketing vaccines as lead magnets - providing incentives to consumers to come in and have one. They are treating vaccines as cash cows for their "business". The health of myself and my children is not a business and the way we have been treating the dispersal of vaccines is appalling.

As a society we are trending towards a slippery slope. We are undermining the physician relationship and providing incentives where they should not exist. Instead of education, we are pushing the will of money-making organizations down unknowing consumers' throats.

As lawmakers, you should be the first line of defense for consumers. I urge you to take the ethical high road and oppose these bills.

Thank you, Margaret Stoklosa Gaithersburg, MD