

February 26, 2021

Dear Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee Members,

I am writing to request that you kindly **oppose** Senate Bill 808: Health Occupations – Licensed Dentist-Administration of Vaccines.

I am concerned about the number of bills that I have seen which attempt to broaden those who can administer childhood vaccinations. As a parent of a child with a complicated medical history, I would only wish for my children to be administered a vaccine by their pediatrician who has followed them since birth. I do not believe it is safe nor necessary to allow pharmacists or dentists to administer shots to children. When I take my child to the dentist, I want the dentist to be focused on oral health and dental care. The time is limited during these appointments. What training do dentists have in pediatric care that permits them to move into administering the vaccines on the recommended schedule? What happens if there is a serious side effect that occurs after the vaccination is administered?

It is my understanding that the goal of this legislation was to let dentists assist with administering vaccines for COVID for those that want one. However, nothing in this bill is written for this purpose. I would not be opposed to dentists assisting in administering vaccines for COVID to any adult that wanted one. However, I absolutely oppose dentists administering any vaccines to minors under the age of 18 years old.

I ask that you please oppose this unnecessary bill.

Sincerely,

Christie Carr
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