

3/1/2022

Dear Maryland General Assembly,

I oppose the MD Senate bill SB0839. I oppose vaccine passports. It is not right when a bill:

1) **will REMOVE a citizen's right to body integrity:**

[Everyone has the right to maintain bodily integrity by declining medical interventions to which they do not give informed consent apart from coercion.]

2) **will UNDERMINE medical or religious exemptions:**

[Forcing or coercing someone in any way to take a vaccine or any medication violates the Nuremberg Code established in 1947 after the terrible acts that took place by the Nazi regime. People decline COVID-19 vaccines for medical reasons or sincerely held ethical, moral, or religious beliefs. The valued and valuable ethical and legal traditions of the United States and Maryland are clear that it not acceptable to discriminate on the basis of medical condition/disability or on the basis of religion/religious belief.]

3) **will establish a SEPERATIST PRECEDENT:**

[COVID passports set the groundwork for a two-tiered society, in which persons who have received vaccinations may live normal lives (including work, schooling, right to assembly, and access to various services) and persons who have not received vaccinations are denied those rights.]

4) **will WEAKEN each citizen's medical privacy:**

[First, the websites/apps used to hold these passports will be easy prey for hackers to steal medical and personal information. Second, Doctor/medical practitioner-patient confidentiality is legally protected and essential for a myriad of reasons, and the privacy & protection of medical records is also important. The COVID-19 passports and other COVID requirements erode or remove these legal protections.]

For these reasons (and more), I implore you to not pass this bill. Sincerely,

Kathleen Shoemaker

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