

## OPPOSE Senate Bill 840

Eszter Szabo

7608 Cayuga Avenue, Bethesda, MD 20817

March 1, 2022

This Bill would extend Covid19 response in the state till the end of 2023 which is no longer necessary since Covid19 is over. This bill is asking for institutions of higher education with residence halls for students to establish a CV19 security plan with perpetual screening and testing of healthy students. In the name of safety, which is an undefined scientific category, it would require students be tested. We would be using EUA testing kits on a population that is not at risk of CV19 where the spread of CV19 is minimal. This bill is also unnecessarily asking for specific goals to be set to safely reopen schools, which have already been opened and being kept open safely in Maryland. Overall, we should be returning to sound medical practice which is testing of symptomatic people via medical doctors ordering tests when their patients need them. More testing of asymptomatic for CV19 is not necessary. This bill would also require various health departments to create other artificial testing goals to achieve, the funding of which is a waste of taxpayers' resources.

The bill is requesting to establish a strategy to increase vaccination amongst the unvaccinated and incentivize eligible individuals to receive a third dose of CV19 vaccine. Since CV19 is over and the CV19 vaccine is not protective of the latest variant, Omicron, this is only a moneymaking proposition transferring funds to the public health administration profession for creating policies, targets, monitoring, etc. and the pharmaceutical companies who market the tests, masks and vaccines. There are treatments for CV19 so vaccines are not anymore essential. We better allow medical doctors treat patients with CV19.

The MyIR digital vaccine passport is discriminatory, allows segregation of society and encourages employers to hire/fire based on a health choice regarding a vaccine. Everyone's health choice is private information; we shouldn't base access to basic needs on this choice.

As far as allowing pharmacists to order and inoculate children age 3 and over with CV19 EUA vaccine without parental consent, this is dangerous and a serious breach of parental rights. Pharmacists are not doctors or nurses. Pharmacists have a lot of responsibilities, adding this to their busy schedule is not a good idea. Recently I received a medication from my pharmacy which my doctor prescribed. At home when I wanted to take the medication, I noticed that the information didn't contain instruction on how many tablets to take per day. Since I couldn't reach the pharmacy nor my doctor, I needed to find the information myself on the internet. This was a simple case. What if a busy pharmacist is administering a vaccine to a 3-year-old? Any small mistake can cause serious harm for that child.

Please vote against this bill with a mish-mash of various items included that would all need to be debated separately and not in one bill as submitted here.