

This notification is to provide my **strong opposition** to Maryland Senate Bill 840 which would require colleges, schools, and institutions to develop plans and goals to monitor, prevent, mitigate, and track via contact tracing the spread and Covid-19 vaccination for Maryland residents. The bill also develops a vaccination mobile app to voluntarily provide proof of an individual's Covid vaccination status and to access venues where proof of Covid-19 vaccinations is required for entry. This bill is an incremental unilateral government assault on our personal freedoms granted by the U.S. Constitution. Even with consideration for a religious, medical, or immunity exemption, it is unconscionable the Maryland assembly would consider (even voluntary) Covid-19 vaccination passports. Regardless of your vaccination status, citizens should be concerned with this unprecedented breach of freedom. It always begins as a "temporary" or "voluntary" measure before removed to "mandated." We have watched our freedoms and liberties trampled (2 weeks to flatten the curve, closed schools, lockdowns, no religious worship, virtual learning, restrictions on visiting nursing homes, mask mandates, vaccine mandates to participate in activities) for the past 2 years.

This is mind boggling from the common-sense standpoint and makes NO sense from the science standpoint. Vaccine passports are immoral, unconstitutional, and a massive authoritative overreach. How does this fulfill social justice to force someone to be medicated against their will? Medical coercion is a human rights violation. Medical experimentation on non-consenting subjects has been recognized as a crime since the formulation of the Nuremberg Code. *What's next?* Separating the vaccinated from the unvaccinated? Vaccine passports to attend school, employment, church, eat at restaurants? This sounds like history repeating itself.

We have seen the Government require vaccine mandates/passports for employment and participation in normal societal activities. This would economically destroy the Maryland economy and small businesses. The Supreme Court blocked President Biden's vaccine mandate on large businesses, called the plan a "blunt instrument, and noted the mandate is "no 'everyday exercise of federal power.' It is instead a significant encroachment into the lives -- and health -- of a vast number of employees." The Supreme Court stated further vaccinations "cannot be undone at the end of the workday," adding that "a school-based mandate imposes irreversible medical treatment that extends far beyond the threshold of the school door." Furthermore, 17 states have passed legislation banning COVID-19 vaccine requirements for school attendance. In addition, the majority of states including the District of Columbia are dropping mask mandates. And the Maryland Assembly is considering vaccine passports? Are you kidding me?

Medical science is proving vaccine mandates useless and irrational. Martin Kulldorff, a Harvard Medical School professor/biostatistician and epidemiologist, said research showing that natural immunity offers exponentially more protection than vaccines mean vaccine passports are both unscientific and discriminatory, since they disproportionately affect working class individuals. There is simply no historical parallel for governments attempting to restrict the movements of healthy people over a respiratory virus in this manner. The argument that mandating vaccination is a public health issue for protection falls apart when considering the following. Maryland legislation must reflect these realities.

- COVID vaccinations do not prevent infection or spread of the virus as noted by CDC Director Dr. Rochelle Walensky.
- COVID-vaccinated individuals carry the same viral load when symptomatic as unvaccinated individuals.
- More than 15 studies show the natural immunity to SARS-CoV-2 is broader, more durable, and longer-lasting than any of the shots on the market today.
- Documented long-term health impacts (including myocarditis, stroke, and reproductive harms) on youth in light of the minimal risk of infection/spread/hospitalization.
- The World Health Organization have noted that children and adolescents tend to have milder disease compared to adults, so unless they are part of a group at higher risk of severe COVID-19, the priority should be to fully vaccinate older people, those with chronic health conditions and health workers.
- Peer-reviewed research shows that children have virtually zero risk of hospitalization and death from the COVID-19 virus. Conversely, according to Pfizer's own study trial data, the chance of death in children from the Pfizer vaccine is 107 times higher than death due to COVID.

- Parents and school administrators should never allow the government to force a medical procedure on children, especially when they have a minuscule risk of hospitalization and death from COVID.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide my comments on Maryland Bill 840.

Dale Miller