

My name is Deborah Hopp. I am a wife, mother, and grandmother. I am also a Baltimore City ESOL teacher. I oppose Senate Bill SB372.

This bill violates a parent's rights to make decisions on behalf of their children. Parents and guardians, solely, should be making the decisions concerning vaccinations for their children-NOT the pharmacist. This bill does not require informed parental consent. The bill was filed as an "Emergency Bill, but there is NO longer an EMERGENCY. Childhood vaccination rates in Maryland are among the highest in the nation. Furthermore, pharmacists are NOT doctors! They do not know the child's medical history and do not have a medical relationship with that child or the child's family. The pharmacists are not qualified to deal with a child who has a serious adverse reaction and has limited liability protection. In addition, it is NOT specified who is billed for such procedures. In closing, PARENTS are responsible for their child's health and well-being, not pharmacists. This bill MUST be withdrawn, and no further proceedings or amendments should be made concerning these emergency use vaccines in regards to a pharmacist having such authority.