

HB1232

UNFAVORABLE

Kathy Talbott, Myersville, MD

To the Honorable Members of the HBO Committee,

Please say NO to HB1232. This bill is unnecessary, and potentially dangerous. I am opposed.

I do not understand the need or rationale for this bill.

Child vaccine schedules are complex. There is too much room for error. Children's health needs are best met with providers with background and an understanding of the child. Those who see the child and have a relationship with both the child and the parent.

Why is this bill a necessity? If there is a problem for parents to get their children to a medical doctor for consistent appointments, why are we not addressing that, possibly the root problem? Time off from work? Transportation? Other issues working parents might face in getting children the care they need? Why not give support where it is needed-with the families and parents?

Pharmacists don't have access to medical records. They are not trained in children's vaccine schedules. This bill says they don't even need a prescription. How is that fair to pharmacists or the children whom they will be required to serve? Do the pharmacists even like this bill, or is it just a moneymaker for the pharmacies themselves?

Why do we continue to pull the responsibilities of childcare and decision making from families, the parents and providers who know them best, transferring it to bureaucracies, schools and commercial interests? How is that supportive of the health and well-being of children?

An unfavorable report is needed. NO on HB1232

Thank you for your time and dedicated efforts on behalf of Maryland's families.

Sincerely,

Kathy Talbott

Myersville, MD