

SB 492/House Bill 522: Public Schools - Student Telehealth  
Appointments - Policy and Access: Please OPPOSE this  
dangerous bill!!

Dear Chair Atterbeary, Vice Chair Wilkins, and all other esteemed  
Committee Members:

I can't stress strongly enough why all of you should oppose this very dangerous bill!!

Please consider the following points:

- Parents have the fundamental right to direct and to refuse any medical treatments, procedures, interventions or vaccinations, etc. which might be administered to their students in school settings. Parents must retain the fundamental right to discover and direct the medical and mental care of their children, including the full content of information to which the children are exposed, and any medical treatment, procedure, intervention, or vaccination, etc., including mental health care, administered. Parents demonstrably have the highest vested interest in their children's welfare and are best equipped to make important decisions for their children regarding their care. There is no context in which it's necessary or appropriate for the state legislature to pass laws that undermine or usurp the authority of all parents, the vast majority of whom provide much better care and decision-making for their children than the state is capable of providing. The Supreme Court ruled in 1979: "Most children, even in adolescence, simply are not able to make sound judgments concerning many decisions, including their need for medical care or treatment. Parents can and must make those judgments."
- Moreover, under the Maryland constitution, as well as the United States constitution, this committee as a body has absolutely no right to limit or revoke the rights of parents. Parents have every right to parent, and their primary responsibility does not require permission from you or any legislative body. My position against HB 878 is supported by multitudes of quality publicly-available objective evidence, and not based on subjective experiences or notions. Furthermore, my position is consistent with the rules of logic with no contradiction. And while I consider this bill morally reprehensible and an unnecessary waste of your time and our tax dollars, legislating THE REMOVAL OF PARENTS IN THE DECISION-MAKING

WITH REGARDS TO THEIR OWN CHILDREN into the Maryland code should frighten all of us no matter how we stand on this bill.

- Have you been provided with proper long-term safety data of the mental, physical and psychological health effects on children, as a result of removing parents from the decision-making regarding the overall health and mental well-being of their own children while their children are in schools? If not, don't just be a follower of this global trend and unwittingly let this Pandora's Box be further opened. As a member you have one intrinsic duty and that is to **do no harm** and serve the common good. I ask that you reject this bill and any other legislation associated with it for the sake of our children and families. I remind you to uphold the Constitution and the unalienable rights of parents.
- Healthcare providers that are being contacted while the child is in a public school setting may NOT have access to students' full medical history and cannot fully assess the relative risks and benefits of medical interventions for pediatric patients in school without notifying and conferring with parents and any other doctors whom the children see and from whom the children receive care and treatment and/or treatment management.
- Parents must be informed of medical diagnoses and treatments administered to their children while in public school settings and in order to partner with the student's primary healthcare providers and other support systems to address the diagnosis and any factors contributing to the student's health and mental well-being.
- Students who receive physical or mental healthcare without parental notice in public school settings may be at increased risk of susceptibility to [social contagion](#) and/or may be at greater risk to receive off-label medical treatments which are [not supported by adequate evidence](#).

We need a 3-legged stool approach for safe medical care for our children. This stool includes the physician, the parent, and the child. I will fight any bills that remove any part of this. This bill removes the parent, thereby removing the parent, leaving the child completely open to the greedy pharmaceutical industry and any doctor or other medical or mental health "professional" that DOES NOT have full knowledge of the child's full medical and mental health history.

I'm sure that we can all agree that the medical records of a child should never be kept hidden from that child's parents! Many adverse reactions from vaccinations, medications, etc. take weeks or longer to appear. If a child starts having a seizure or any other adverse

reaction while at school, when that child had no previous medical history of seizures or other adverse reactions, it would be crucial for the parents to know what product was recommended to their child and when and how it was given. This could be the difference between life and death for that child!

Please think really hard before you vote on this bill. This bill would be disastrous for our children and families in Maryland!

Thank you for your time and attention. Thank you again for **opposing** this bill.

Trudy Tibbals

A very concerned Mother and Maryland resident