

Testimony SB 385-Opposition

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Good afternoon,

My name is Jill Kapper and I'm a lifelong resident here in Maryland. I'm here today requesting opposition towards SB 385. I'm here requesting for opposition because they shift health policy authority from elected lawmakers to unelected officials. The authoritative medical organizations that will be handed over this authority can not be trusted. Currently, major public health policies in Maryland are debated and voted on by elected representatives who are accountable to voters.

These trade organizations who would be given the power have proven to be biased towards protecting their health care provider members and their organizations (as they receive substantial pharmaceutical funding) versus protecting and improving the health of MD constituents.

Children's Health Defense, a nonprofit advocating for our children's health, and other plaintiffs have recently filed a racketeering "RICO" lawsuit against the AAP of similar nature to the Tobacco Industry case of the 1990s. The lawsuit accuses AAP of conflicts of interest and racketeering over the last few decades for receiving major funding from pharma and implementing schemes to incentivize high immunization rates while making repeated false claims about vaccine safety.

Policies with broad impact on healthcare access and personal choice should be debated openly by the legislature. Maryland families deserve legislative oversight and transparency for decisions affecting healthcare. They will not put Marylanders' needs first and I request that you oppose this.

Thank you

Lawsuit Reignites Debate About AAP's Famous '10,000 Vaccines' Claim

https://childrenshealthdefense.org/defender/lawsuit-reignites-debate-about-aap-famous-vaccines-claim/?utm_source=cc&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=defender&utm_id=20260203