

# Testimony Against SB0385

Honorable Delegates

Please enter an unfavorable decision about SB0385.

I am opposed to

- Requiring the Secretary of Health to issue recommendations for certain immunizations, screenings, and preventive services based on certain evidence-based scientific and clinical guidance;
- requiring the Secretary, before adopting a recommendation for a certain preventive service to hold a notice and comments period, obtain a certain analysis from the Maryland Health Care Commission, and cite the basis for the recommendation;
- altering the authority of pharmacists to administer certain vaccinations.

The bill states that

THE SECRETARY SHALL ISSUE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMMUNIZATIONS, SCREENINGS, AND PREVENTIVE SERVICES FOR INFANTS, CHILDREN, AND ADULTS THAT FOLLOW THE GENERALLY ACCEPTED CONSENSUS WITHIN THE SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITY AND SOUND CLINICAL GUIDANCE AS SPECIFIED IN SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION AND SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION

**THE RECOMMENDATIONS SHALL:**

**(1) BE MADE IN ACCORDANCE WITH** THE APPLICABLE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FOLLOWING AUTHORITATIVE MEDICAL ORGANIZATIONS:

- (I) THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS;
  - (II) THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF OBSTETRICIANS AND GYNECOLOGISTS; OR
  - (III) THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS; AND
- (2) TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION THE APPLICABLE GUIDANCE OF:
- (I) THE MARYLAND STATEWIDE ADVISORY COMMISSION ON IMMUNIZATIONS;
  - (II) THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, INCLUDING THE HEALTH RESOURCES AND SERVICES ADMINISTRATION;
  - (III) THE U.S. CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION, INCLUDING THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON IMMUNIZATION PRACTICES;
  - (IV) THE U.S. FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, INCLUDING THE VACCINES AND RELATED BIOLOGICAL PRODUCTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE; AND
  - (V) THE U.S. PREVENTIVE SERVICES TASK FORCE.

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Based on the language of the bill, the Department will now almost always make its “recommendations” match the conclusions promulgated by those organizations listed in Section (1) because the organizations listed in Section (2) are headed by people placed there by President Trump. While they may consider the opinions of the organizations in Section (2), I doubt the Secretary will accept them because of the politics involved. The three organizations listed in Section (1) receive a large amount of donations from the major drug companies and cannot be considered unbiased.

Please do not let political differences be the deciding factor in determining the vaccination schedules for our children and grandchildren.

Please review again the testimony submitted by those parents who do not support this bill as their testimony is far more compelling than mine.a

Please enter an unfavorable decision about SB0385.

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