

This letter voices my strong opposition to HB1232/SB372 that would allow pharmacists to vaccinate children aged three and up without a doctor's prescription. The language also states a "caregiver" could take the child to get the shots. This language is totally inappropriate as it does not define "parent/legal guardian."

It is unsafe for the pediatric vaccine market to be turned over to pharmacists who are not set up to give the complex schedule that children are recommended to receive. They cannot assess a child to know if the vaccines are appropriate for each individual child. They will be going by a general list for all children. They are also not prepared to care for any reactions that may occur especially severe reactions. There is simply not enough staff or expertise to deal with these situations should they arise.

Due to the staff limitations, it will also be unsafe for people picking up prescriptions to have the pharmacist interrupt his work every time someone comes in for a shot.

I strongly urge you to vehemently oppose this bill.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this proposed bill.

Mary Jo Witte