



**Pennsylvania Coalition for Informed Consent**

InformedConsentPA.org

484-808-PCIC

### **PA Schools Mislead Parents to Deny Choice and Informed Consent**

Many PA schools are distributing misleading information about vaccination requirements for school attendance. The PA Coalition for Informed Consent (PCIC) --- whose mission is to preserve the vital personal freedom and human right to medical privacy, individual choice, and informed consent --- has received numerous complaints that schools are falsely notifying parents that their children must receive additional vaccines or be excluded from school in August.

While new vaccine mandates were added for the 2017-2018 school year, NO change was made to PA exemption laws enabling parents to opt out of vaccinating their children for medical, religious, or strong moral/ethical reasons. Medical exemptions require a statement from a physician; but, in keeping with Pennsylvania's long history of religious freedom, a letter from a parent is sufficient for religious/moral/ethical exemptions.

**PA Code § 23.84. (b) *Religious exemption.* Children need not be immunized if the parent, guardian or emancipated child objects in writing to the immunization on religious grounds or on the basis of a strong moral or ethical conviction similar to a religious belief.**

When schools state only that students without all vaccinations will not be admitted, they fail to follow the stipulations of **PA Code Section 23.85**, which requires school administrators to provide complete information on the topic, including the availability of exemptions. This practice leaves parents uneducated about their options, effectively nullifies their rights, and can be dangerous for medically vulnerable children.

It was not the PA legislature, but unelected and unaccountable bureaucrats at the Departments of Health and Education, who used the less-visible regulatory process to increase vaccine mandates. Pennsylvania families have always been free to choose whether to inject their children with any or all of the 69 doses of 16 vaccines currently recommended by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). In the 1980s, the CDC schedule had only 23 doses of 7 vaccines for children up to age 18; but these numbers have tripled since 1986, when Congress stripped away all Americans' right to sue vaccine makers for injury or death caused by their products.

The PCIC volunteers strive to present Pennsylvanians with complete access to their existing medical rights under state law. We ask the press to include all sides of an issue when publishing articles related to children's medical procedures and parents' rights.

For full details on this subject, please contact [info@informedconsentpa.org](mailto:info@informedconsentpa.org) or call 484-808-PCIC.