

OPPOSE [SB 626 Schwank](#) Before parents could use a non-medical vaccine exemption, they would be required to take annual, state-mandated education and be seen by someone authorized to administer vaccines who would have to agree to sign their exemption form.

SB626 was referred to [Senate Education Committee](#).

Committee Chair is [Senator Wayne Langerholc Jr.](#) (814) 765-0555, (717) 787-5400

This bill is an assault on religious freedom and a step toward removing all [religious and moral/ethical](#) vaccine exemptions. Other states (California and New York) have followed this legislative playbook to first make exemptions harder to use before taking them away completely.

This bill applies to homeschoolers and members of ALL religious faiths - no exceptions.

Requiring PA families to find a medical practitioner, authorized to administer vaccines, to see ALL children over 6 years old EVERY YEAR, in hopes of obtaining their signature on each child's religious exemption form, would interfere with the free exercise of religion and create undue burdens and unnecessary financial expenses.

Many families can not find a medical practice as a growing number of them refuse to see patients who do not fully vaccinate according to the [CDC schedule](#). (Currently 69 doses of 16 different vaccines by age 18.) This bill would leave families NO option to use the religious exemption.

Proceeding with this bill would make it possible for amendments to be added to the bill which could completely remove the current exemptions.

Section 3 of the [PA Constitution](#), says in part, "All men have a natural and indefeasible right to worship Almighty God according to the dictates of their own consciences; ... **no human authority can, in any case whatever, control or interfere with the rights of conscience,**"

Pennsylvanians expect their state government to respect their inherent rights to live out their beliefs by opposing any proposed legislation which interferes with their rights to refuse vaccines for religious or moral/ethical reasons.

People can get any vaccine they want without coercion. The [U.S. Vaccine Market](#) was \$36.45 Billion in 2018, and expected to reach \$50.42 billion by 2023. The pharmaceutical industry benefits from forced use. Over [260 vaccines](#) are in development and the pharma industry has near unlimited resources to lobby and influence policy to remove parental rights to delay or decline a vaccine.

Vaccines, like other pharmaceutical products, **can cause injury and death** in some people. The US Government has paid out more than [\\$4.2 billion](#) through the federal [Vaccine Injury Compensation Program](#) for injuries and deaths following vaccination.

There is NO compelling reason to change the current exemption law.