



The Children's Advocacy Alliance, a nonprofit, nonpartisan advocacy organization

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December 8, 2020

Lisa Sherych, Administrator
Division of Public and Behavioral Health
4150 Technology Way, Suite 300
Carson City, NV 89706
jpfilippi@health.nv.gov

RE: Immunization regulations for standardized forms and MenACWY

Dear Administrator Sherych,

We thank you and the entire DPBH staff for working tirelessly to ensure public health during this pandemic. As advocates and members of the scientific community, the Children's Advocacy Alliance (CAA) understands the importance of adhering to science-driven vaccination schedules and supports LCB File Number R046-20P. We must require rigorous documentation and audits for exemptions, and ensure appropriate vaccinations to participate in group childcare.

The early days of the COVID pandemic are a textbook example of what happens when unmitigated communicable illness ravages communities. If we allow surging vaccine hesitancy to further decrease immunization rates, we will likely experience outbreaks of other preventable illnesses—illnesses that affect children at higher rates and more severely than COVID-19.

In 2019, worldwide measles cases reached numbers not seen since the mid-nineties; and the WHO expresses confidence rates continued to rise throughout 2020. Fewer than 1 in 4 Nevadan children receive flu vaccines. According to our annual Kids Count Report Card, Nevada currently ranks 20th in the nation for childhood vaccine uptake. DPBH, in partnership with schools, health districts, and childcare licensing organizations, can increase our vaccination rates by adhering to best practices and strengthening regulations and requirements for exemptions.

CAA understands there are rare instances when vaccination may not be appropriate for medically fragile children. We staunchly support and firmly believe in religious freedom. However, when making decisions that can gravely impact personal safety and public health, we must require that providers and parents receive comprehensive, scientifically sound education. We urge the adoption of LCB File Number R046-20P.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tiffany Tyler-Garner".

Dr. Tiffany Tyler-Garner, Executive Director

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kelly Bumgarner".

Dr. Kelly Bumgarner, Director of Health Policy