

2:00  
Monday

I am in favor of HB 1468 and urge you to send this on with a "Do Pass".

25 years ago when I started having children, when you took your child in for immunizations, you received color coded sheets for each shot being given. Over time, they have recommended that you print them off the CDC's website. Or if you ask, they will try and print one for you. The handout is not the same as the vaccine insert. I would encourage all parents to know exactly what is being injected into their children's bodies, the possible side effects, and any long term medical issues that may arise that the vaccine could have triggered.

I also agree that after reviewing the vaccine insert, the parent should then be asked if they want the child to receive the vaccines and told that if they do not want one or all of the immunizations, that they can sign an exemption form and the child can still attend daycare and school, or that an adult may still work.

We've talked about the availability of exemption forms and if parents are being told they can request one or use one. I requested a student handbook from my local school district, the letter that goes out to Kindergarten students, their policy on immunizations, and the exemption forms but have not received the information.

Another stressful time in a woman's life is when she is pregnant and in labor. Many questions are not asked ahead of time and decisions need to be made in the heat of the moment. Some are actually considered a "given" unless the mother specifically states that she does NOT want her baby to be vaccinated at birth. So if they don't give out the information, they will assume she does want the baby to be. Many mothers never even know and are not given a sheet about the Hep B shot that their child receives. This bill would increase awareness and save the mom from making a decision while in active labor or recovering from the labor.

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