

Members of the House Human Services Committee,

I would like to express my opposition to HB 1469.

My name is Ashley Bruner. I am a mom of 4 children, ages 6, 4, and 1 year old twins. Seven years ago, when pregnant with our first born, the journey to finding the truth of vaccines began for me. Like many first-time moms, I spent countless hours reading and researching every stage of pregnancy and baby development, and every option and choice that we, as that precious baby's parents, had to make in her first days of life.

Being curious and usually someone to challenge the status quo, I think the most common question I've asked throughout my life, is simply, "Why?". And so, when it came to vaccines for my tiny day-old baby, I asked that question. "Why are we giving these vaccines, and furthermore, what if we don't?"

While in graduate school, I was taught to research, to be objective, and to be a critical thinker. And so, as I posed these questions, I dug in and began researching every single vaccine on the recommended list of vaccinations for children. I researched every disease these vaccines are said to protect us from; we weighed the risks versus benefits for each one. This research has never ended, even after our 4<sup>th</sup> baby has been born, as it's a topic of continual education, to often review the risks versus benefits, for all things regarding our children.

In other words, as a highly educated person, and more importantly, as our children's' parent, I have already spent literally days upon days doing my research regarding vaccines. These are not decisions we are making regarding the health of our children on a whim, or because someone told us to. I know a large number of parents with the same background, same thought process, same questions, and same research done; quite frankly, a biased Department of Health video will not change our minds on the decisions we've chosen for OUR children.

Save the state funding for these "Vaccination Education Modules", or better yet, use it to educate parents who have not done their own research, weighing the true risks and benefits of vaccinations for their children.

I strongly oppose HB 1469 and encourage you to cast a Do Not Pass vote from this committee.

Thank you for your time and consideration!

Ashley Bruner

Drake, District 6