Overview of Legislative Bills on Non-Medical Exemptions to School/Childcare Imm Mandates

IZCoalitions Webinar

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April 13, 2015
Today’s Presentation

- Overview of states with religious and/or personal belief exemptions
- Recent and current legislative efforts to strengthen or weaken PBEs
- Resources
Types of non-medical, non-religious exemptions

- Personal beliefs/personal reasons/convictions (7)
- Philosophical/moral reasons (5)
- Other grounds/objections/written objection (3)
- Conscientiously held beliefs/reasons of conscience (3)
- Philosophical or personal objection (1)
- Strong moral or ethical conviction similar to a religious belief (1)
States with Personal Belief Exemptions to Childcare and/or School Immunization Requirements

April 2015

20 states allow exemptions for non-medical, non-religious reasons
States without religious exemptions to school immunization requirements

April 2015

WA
OR
NV
MT
ID
AK
UT
AZ
WY
ND
KS
NM
CO
LA
AR
IN
MI
OH
GA
AL
VA
NC
SC
WV
ME
NY
PA
NH
VT
HI
MO
NE
IL
WI
MI
IN
OH
KY
TN
NC
SC
GA
FL
DC
RI
CT
NJ
DE
MD
FL
DC
RI
CT
NJ
DE
MD
FL
Outcome of legislation pertaining to non-medical exemptions in 2009-14

- WA
- OR
- NV
- MT
- ID
- AK
- UT
- AZ
- WY
- ND
- SD
- NE
- IA
- KS
- MO
- AR
- OK
- TX
- LA
- MS
- AL
- GA
- SC
- FL
- WI
- IL
- IN
- OH
- KY
- WV
- VA
- NC
- TN
- MS
- NJ
- NY
- PA
- DE
- MD
- DC
- RI
- CT
- MA
- NH
- VT
- ME
- HI

Strengthen PBE

immunization action coalition
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States that Enacted Requirements to Strengthen Non-Medical Exemptions

- **Washington**: statement from HCP; risk/benefit info given (effective July 2011)
- **Vermont**: must review evidence-based education materials provided by SHD; annual renewal (effective Jan 2013)
- **California**: statement from HCP; risk/benefit info given (effective Jan 2014)
- **Oregon**: statement from HCP or certificate of completion of an on-line vaccine educational module (effective March 2014)
- **Michigan**: must meet with a health educator at LHD and receive a certified waiver form (effective Jan 2015)
States with legislation/rule-making pertaining to non-medical exemptions in 2015

- AK
- WA
- OR
- NV
- MT
- ID
- UT
- AZ
- WY
- ND
- SD
- NE
- KS
- NM
- CO
- LA
- AR
- IN
- MI
- OH
- GA
- AL
- VA
- NC
- WV
- ME
- NY
- PA
- NH
- VT
- HI
- MO
- NE
- IL
- WI
- IA
- MN
- IA
- WV
- VA
- MD
- DE
- FL
- DC
- RI
- CT
- NJ
- NJ
- MA
- MN
- CA
- OK
- TX
- SD
- TN
- AL
- GA
- SC
- FL
- NY
- PA
- NH
- VT
- HI

Legend:
- Relax/Add PBE
- Strengthen non-medical exemption
- Remove non-medical exemption(s)
- Post exemption rates
Components of Recent Legislation

- Educational component (e.g., physician, LHD, on-line educational module)
- Renewal (e.g., annually, grade 7)
- Posting of exemption rates (e.g., by county, school district, school)
Parents have rights to make decisions on their child’s
- Education
- Moral or religious upbringing
- Physical and mental health care decisions (e.g., immunizations)

Can the state mandate vaccinations?
- Yes. The constitutionality of mandatory vaccination was upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court in 1905 (see Jacobson v. Massachusetts)
Policy Statements on Non-medical Exemptions

Exemptions

IAC INFORMATION
Exemptions permitted for state immunization requirements
This table was compiled by IAC using information provided by state health departments.
[View map]

Personal belief exemptions for vaccination put people at risk. Examine the evidence for yourself.
Journal articles that provide evidence that personal belief exemptions play a role in vaccine-preventable disease outbreaks, including citations, summaries, key findings, and links to abstracts.

CDC INFORMATION
Exemptions allowed for childcare and school mandates
The data in these reports are provided by state immunization programs through the annual school assessment report submitted to CDC by April 30 each year.
Please contact the state-specific point of contact for more detailed information.

ASSOCIATION OF IMMUNIZATION MANAGERS
AIM Position Statement on Personal Belief Exemptions from State Vaccination Mandates
A position statement of the Association of Immunization Managers (AIM)

EVERY CHILD BY TWO
Daycare Center and School Immunization Mandates
A position statement of Every Child By Two (ECBT) - Champions for Immunization

INSTITUTE FOR VACCINE SAFETY, JOHNS HOPKINS BLOOMBERG SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH
Map of US states allowing religious, personal belief, or medical exemptions
Religious exemptions and personal belief exemptions for daycare and school

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY & CITY HEALTH OFFICIALS
Eliminating Personal Belief Exemptions from Immunization Requirements for Child Care and School Attendance
NACCHO Statement of Policy

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF STATE LEGISLATURES
INFORMATION
States with religious and philosophical exemptions from school immunization requirements
Table of religious and philosophical exemptions by state, with links to statutes

PEDIATRIC INFECTIONOUS DISEASES SOCIETY
A Statement Regarding Personal Belief Exemption from Immunization Mandates
Position statement from the Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society (PIDS)

See www.immunize.org/laws
TAKE ACTION - VACCINES SAVE LIVES

Vaccines save countless lives every day, and give every child the chance to grow up healthy. Unfortunately, a tremendous amount of misinformation is leading a growing number of parents to not vaccinate. This has caused a re-emergence of vaccine-preventable disease across the country.

Several state legislatures have introduced bills to strengthen immunization rates. We need your action at the state level now – see how you can help by reviewing our current list of pending legislation.

ACTIVE STATE LEGISLATION

**CALIFORNIA  SB 277** SUPPORT Bill to repeal personal belief exemption to vaccination requirements

*Passed the Senate Health Committee. This Bill now moves to the Senate Education Committee. The hearing is scheduled for 4/15/15 - CLICK HERE TO CONTACT YOUR REP TODAY!*

Find your representative and tell them that you support SB 277 and contact the members of the Senate Committee on Education, and the Senate Judiciary Committee where this bill has been referred.

**CONNECTICUT  HB 6949** SUPPORT Act requiring that religious exemption from certain vaccines be notarized

*Passed the Committee on Public Health – contact your representative today!

Find your representative and tell them that you support HB 6949
Thank you!!!

- Diane Peterson, diane@immunize.org

- Immunization Action Coalition
  - www.immunize.org
  - www.vaccineinformation.org