



Colorado House Health & Insurance Committee
Theresa Wrangham Oral Testimony on SB 21-016
May 26, 2021

Good afternoon, I am Theresa Wrangham, the executive director for the National Vaccine Information Center and a Colorado resident. NVIC supports consumer access to preventative health measures, including vaccination, which is considered preventative care. However, we oppose SB-016, due lack of equity in bill language relating to federal law which prohibits minor consent to vaccination without the knowledge and/or consent of parents and guardians.

Under the [National Childhood Vaccine Injury Compensation Act of 1986](#), which NVIC's co-founders worked with Congress to draft and pass, vaccine providers are required to furnish to parents and guardians the CDC's Vaccine Information Statement prior to the vaccination of a minor. This law also requires the provider to [record vaccine information into the minor's permanent medical record and parental or guardian access to that record upon request](#).

Additionally, over 30,000 Colorado children receive preventative care, including vaccination, from school based health centers. The [Affordable Care Act](#) requires parental consent in this setting and already prevents financial and access barriers to vaccines.

House sponsors have not responded to our concerns and Senate sponsors have stated that clarification on federal law in bill language is not needed. However, SB-016 uses federal law and specifically mentions ACA and Title X to clarify and codify its goals, while not providing the same equity on the federal rights of parents and guardians relating to minor consent.

Respectfully, we ask for the equitable amendment of SB-016 to align with federal law to clarify the rights of parents and guardians and to protect their children's access to federal vaccine injury compensation. If SB-016 is not amended, we ask for your no vote. I welcome your questions.