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What the Measles Scare is Really About, and What We MUST Do About It NOW!

The mainstream media measles blitz is being used to create a wave of fear to enable vaccine manufacturers to rush legislation through state legislatures removing all non-medical vaccine exemptions. Bills have already been introduced in several states, and more are surely coming. New vaccine mandates for adults will quickly follow, multiplying vaccine profits.

We are at a crisis point.

We either push back and stop this now, or become a nation of people with growing awareness but no rights. Awareness is key, a prerequisite, but without action, it is only a consolation prize.

The federal government influences state policy and law, but lacks authority to mandate vaccines for state residents directly.[1] So, the primary focus is at the state level. Each of us must engage in the legislative process. In fact, we need to go beyond mere defensive action, we must proactively demanding *more* freedom to make informed choices where that is warranted.

To find out if a bill has been introduced into your state, go to the NVIC Advocacy Portal at www.nvicadvocacy.org. If there is no bill in your state yet, considering meeting with your state reps now anyway, to demand a personal/philosophical exemption if your state doesn't already have one. This will introduce them to the issue and set the stage for a proactive, rather than merely reactive, stance on our part.

There's no one right way to do this, but here are some suggestions from my own and others' legislative activism experience:

1. Keep your eye on the ball. The goal is to keep or expand the right to make an informed choice, NOT to convert your representative to anti-vaccine.
2. We don't have to win the vaccine debate here, we only need to raise reasonable doubt.
3. Join the NVIC Advocacy Portal, nvicadvocacy.org, they have terrific information about legislative activism. Learn who your representatives are, and how to contact them there, or at your state legislative website.
4. It is critical to meet face-to-face meeting with your representatives if possible, as they do not have time to read individual emails and letters. If that's not possible, see if you can schedule a telephone call, and arrange for your information to be in their hands during the call; or, call and speak to one of your representative's aids, they can be helpful as well. Sending letters and emails is certainly better than nothing, but in my experience, you are likely to get no response or a generic response that doesn't address your specific concerns. Personal contact is imperative if possible.
5. Have a clear, concise, focused goal. "To keep our personal belief exemption," or "To enact a personal belief exemption," etc.
6. Do NOT bring or send voluminous information to your representatives, they won't have time to read it. Nail down a few key, concise, irrefutable, referenced facts--no opinions--that fit on one page if at all possible. See one example here:

<http://vaccinerights.com/pdf/2-20-15%20Vaccine%20Fact%20Summary.pdf>

7. When meeting with your representative, you can go alone, or with a friend or group. The ideal small group might include a healthcare professional, an attorney, someone with a vaccine adverse events story—but this is certainly not a requirement. Sometimes, representatives will

speak to experts from another state. I've spoken to representatives and healthcare committees outside of my state by phone in the past, and would be happy to speak to yours. Other experts may be available to help, also.

8. Above all, be polite and respectful of your representative and of the opposition! The quickest way to be ignored is to show disrespect or negative emotions (though it's probably OK to be passionate about your concerns). Given the enormous amount of pharmaceutical money in politics, some think it best to say nothing negative about the pharmaceutical industry at all. You decide, but be balanced. If you do criticize the industry, consider saying like, "the pharmaceutical industry has done a lot of good, but the marketing has gotten out of hand..."

9. Stay abreast of new developments:

a. Tune in to The Know Your Rights Hour radio show, Monday nights 9 pm ET (8 CT, 7 MT, 6 PT), with co-hosts Vaccine Researcher and Author Dr. Sherri Tenpenny and Vaccine Rights Attorney Alan Phillips, www.blogtalkradio.com/knowyourrightshour

b. Tune in to The Vaccine Agenda radio show, Tuesday nights 8 pm ET (7 CT, 6 MT, 5 PT), host Vaccine Rights Attorney Alan Phillips, www.blogtalkradio.com/thevaccineagenda

c. Sign up for the Vaccine Rights E-newsletter for weekly updates on vaccine radio shows and news: www.vaccinerights.com/newslettersignup.html

[1] Congressional Research Service, "The Measles: Background and Federal Role in Vaccine Policy," <http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/R43899.pdf>