

To: Health and Community Services Committee  
 hasc@parliament.qld.gov.au  
 Subject: Submission re Public Health (Exclusion of Unvaccinated Children from Child Care)  
 Amendment Bill 2015

The Public Health (Exclusion of Unvaccinated Children from Child Care) Amendment Bill 2015 is going against the Commonwealth of Australia Constitution Act (The Constitution) Part V - Powers of Parliament - 51 Legislative powers of the Parliament (xxiiiA) the provision of maternity allowances, widows' pensions, child endowment, unemployment, pharmaceutical, sickness and hospital benefits, medical and dental services (but not so as to authorise any form of civil conscription), benefits to students and family allowances.

The Bill is a form of conscription to those who are the most vulnerable financially and this bill attacks those who can't afford private childcare or schooling. The Australia Constitution allows liberty and freedom of choice yet this Bill will remove the liberties and freedom of choices from many Australians and Queenslanders.

In 2013 a Bill similar to this one was rejected by the Queensland parliamentary committee, in the report it stated "The rights of parents to make a decision about immunisation must be balanced against the benefits of immunisation and the importance of protecting the community," the report also said "The committee believes there are other ways to achieve the policy objections of improving childhood vaccinations that have less impact on rights and liberties." My concern is this Bill my take away my rights and liberties and force our family not to enrol our child in daycare, preschool and schooling because we will not be forced into a mandated medical procedure that does not have research to prove its safety and efficiency on our child. Whether we believe in vaccinations or not the government should not be forcing parents to undertake medical procedures as all medical procedures have risks that must be considered.

After the rejection of the 2013 proposed bill the Australian Medical Association president Dr Steve Hambleton said "parents should be asked to produce a certificate after their child had been immunised, as this was a proven way to boost immunisation rates". "We won't go so far as to say 'no vaccination, no play', but we do say there should be a threshold to stop people getting into school," he told AAP.

"They need to be fully vaccinated or have a medical exemption or they need to demonstrate they're a true conscientious objector." I would be happy if the current bill being proposed also offered religious beliefs and conscientious objectors the chance to have make the decisions that is right for their families without affecting their child's education as education is a basic human right.

Vaccination records and Medical records which are lawfully private confidential and should not be forced to be discussed in public arenas such as day cares, kindergartens and schools. Under the Australian Human Rights Commission Act 1986 No.125, 1986 amended Part III - Miscellaneous, Schedule 3 - Declaration of the Rights of the Child Section 3 "*Whereas* the United Nations has, in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, proclaimed that everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth therein, without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status," I believe that this Bill under consideration goes against the the Act listed as it makes distinction against children's vaccination status. This Bill cannot, lawfully, constitutionally and ethically, be passed.

I also believe this bill is been introduced because of concerns of the overall vaccination rate was get getting to a concerning level but according the Federal governments own data the Queensland vaccination overall rate still sits above 92% for children under 60 months and has been for some time. This is considered the "Safe" Herd immunity rate and therefore this bill is unnecessary.

**Cohort 3 (60-<63 Months)**

State	Age Group	% DTP	% Polio	% HIB	% Hep B	% Pneumo	% MMR	% Fully Immunised
ACT	60-<63 Months	94.07	94.05	n/a	n/a	n/a	93.78	93.52
NSW	60-<63 Months	93.06	93.04	n/a	n/a	n/a	93.00	92.55
VIC	60-<63 Months	93.06	93.05	n/a	n/a	n/a	93.01	92.50
QLD	60-<63 Months	92.75	92.74	n/a	n/a	n/a	92.74	92.31
SA	60-<63 Months	91.48	91.40	n/a	n/a	n/a	91.43	90.82
WA	60-<63 Months	91.16	91.13	n/a	n/a	n/a	91.02	90.51
TAS	60-<63 Months	92.93	92.88	n/a	n/a	n/a	92.82	92.16
NT	60-<63 Months	92.84	92.78	n/a	n/a	n/a	93.23	92.22
AUS	60-<63 Months	92.70	92.67	n/a	n/a	n/a	92.64	92.16

Analysis of data: The rolling annualised percentage of children 'fully immunised' by 60 months of age for Australia increased marginally from the previous rolling annualised quarter by 0.1 of a percentage point to 92.2%. This maintains the improvement in coverage for this age milestone. There were also only marginal changes in fully immunised coverage at 60 months of age in all jurisdictions. Coverage for individual vaccines due by 60 months remained greater than 90% in all jurisdictions.

We should have the right to educate our young children. We should have the right to have our children enrolled into child care without restriction on moral and ethical values and especially not on our medical histories. I plead for everyone on this committee to research this thoroughly, make wise, informed decisions and take all of these factors and perhaps so many more I have not scrutinised into account. Our parliament is about looking after Queenslanders and our state. This Bill amendment does not do this.

Sincere regards,  
Daniel Nolan

