

Bethany Heniser  
Mount Desert  
LD 727

Dear Members,

My name is Bethany, and I am writing in strong support of An Act to Repeal Certain Immunization Requirements for Schools. As a parent, I believe that medical decisions should remain in the hands of families, not be dictated by the government as a condition for accessing education.

Current immunization mandates create unnecessary barriers for children and families who have valid concerns, whether they be medical, philosophical, or religious. Parents should have the right to make informed healthcare choices for their children without fear of exclusion from school or discrimination. Education is a fundamental right, and no child should be denied access because their family's personal medical decisions do not align with state mandates.

Additionally, broad vaccine requirements do not account for individual risk factors or parental choice. Mandates ignore the reality that informed, responsible parents are capable of making the best decisions for their children's health. By repealing certain immunization requirements, this bill restores the rights of families to make these choices without coercion or penalty.

I urge you to support this bill and reaffirm the principle that public education should be accessible to all children, regardless of their family's medical choices. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Bethany Heniser