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PRESS RELEASE: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MOUNTAIN VIEW, CA

July, 23 2019

SB276 Pediatric Summer School For Senator Richard Pan
A Tutorial On Unknowns

Sacramento – As Senator Richard Pan’s SB 276 (which severely restricts medical exemption criteria) sits in Suspense, the Summer break could offer an opportunity for him to “catch up” on important matters of public health.

SB 276, an unprecedented bill that holds the theory of *community immunity* above informed consent, would require parents of medically vulnerable children to turn medical decisions over to state bureaucrats. Senator Pan’s web page states SB 276 would “combat the proliferation of fake medical exemptions... since the passage of SB 277, the rate of medical exemptions has more than tripled... to 0.7% in 2017-18.”

Yet research concludes a much bigger public health concern is the shortage of medical exemptions in a population that, according to the [Harvard Lazarus Study](#), should have at least a 2.6% medical exemption rate, a rate much higher than Pan’s 0.7% .

This means if a doctor sees 500 patients, 13 (2.6%) would potentially be in need of a medical exemption to avoid injury. Under SB 276, a physician, regardless of their specialty, is restricted to writing a maximum of 4 medical exemptions, before being put under review.

Furthering the mathematical conundrum, a Journal of the Royal Society of Medicine [study](#) concluded that, when translating research data to actual clinical practice, time lags average 17 years. This means the data on which doctors and patients base medical decisions such as whether or not to vaccinate could be as old as 17 years. [The Mayo Clinic reports](#) roughly 40% of standards of care expire after 10 years. Yet Senator Pan, a physician, has done nothing to address the concerns about a vaccine program that is touted as “safe and effective,” despite the clear need for more investigation into better standards of care and the health outcomes pertaining to the program. In a time when all stops are being pulled out to allow physicians greater latitude in using the latest and greatest advances in medicine, SB 276 would put a complete restriction on this, relegating them to arcane standards implemented in the 1980s.

There were 11 cases of measles in California this year. [NVIC reports](#) there were 459 deaths associated with the MMR in 2018 alone. What’s the bigger public health crisis, and where is the emphasis on funding research for better health outcomes?

In lieu of a push to mandate vaccines and restrict physician care, investing in emerging fields of study, such as [Adversomics](#), may hold the key to understanding and preventing serious adverse vaccine-

related events, developing the next generation of vaccines, and improving public confidence in vaccine safety.

The truth is, there are more questions than answers. Is Senator Pan is out of touch, out-of-date, or just bad at word problems? Rather than asking, “how can we curtail the number of medical exemptions,” it would seem more prudent to ask, “how do we better arm physicians with the latest research to better personalize medicine and identify the genetic and family risks of individuals so vaccine injury is minimized?”

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