

## New Legislation: California Bill SB277

Here in California, new legislation is currently in the works that allows the state to **supersede parents' right to Informed Consent**. Specifically, this bill, SB277, will:

- Remove parents' rights to personal & religious vaccine exemptions for their children.
- Remove parents' rights to a modified vaccine schedule for their children.
- Mandate full vaccination of any minor, from daycare through secondary school in order to attend school, whether private, public, or home school.
- Permit the addition of **any new vaccines that may be added to the schedule at any time**, which already includes annual flu shots.

The unknown of potential additional vaccines has been enough to cause some supporters of SB277 to raise a brow. There are over 200 vaccines being developed and tested at this time, and any one of them could be added to the mandatory schedule. Some US states, as well as some foreign countries, have already moved toward making Gardasil, the controversial HPV vaccine, mandatory. It is reasonable to consider the impact of this particular addition, a new vaccine formula, or an altered booster schedule in the future.

There is talk of increasing the scope of such legislation by adding a bill that applies to adults, and perhaps such a change becoming a federal mandate.

### What You Can Do To Help

If you have concerns over the bill, please contact your Senate and Assembly members directly by phone or email.

*Find your local Senate and Assembly Members:*

### California Assembly Districts:

[http://www.legislature.ca.gov/legislators\\_and\\_districts/districts/assemblydistricts.html](http://www.legislature.ca.gov/legislators_and_districts/districts/assemblydistricts.html)

### Local Assembly Member Finder:

<http://findyourrep.legislature.ca.gov/>

### Find Your Local Congressional District Member:

<http://www.house.gov/representatives/find/>

*It is recommended that emotional arguments, personal stories, and any anti-vaccine sentiment be left out of correspondence.*

*For more information, please contact NVIC.org.*

### Informed consent:

**The right to be informed** about medical procedures, and then to decide which medical interventions, if any, are best for ourselves and our families - has been the bedrock foundation of medical ethics for over 100 years. Informed Consent means that we have the right to understand what is to gain from a treatment, that treatment's limits, and as with any medical intervention, its risks. We then have the right to consider that information as a whole, and make our own risk/benefit analysis about proceeding with the intervention. **As parents, it is our job to make this analysis on behalf of our children.**