

III. HB 4425 & HB 4426 – Vaccinations

Under current Michigan law, parents may seek a waiver if they wish to not vaccinate their children for medical, religious, or philosophical reasons. HB 4425-26 would overturn a 2014 Michigan Department of Health and Human Services administrative rule requiring parents seeking a vaccination waiver to meet with staff at the local county health department to be educated on the risk of not receiving the vaccination. Proponents of the legislation argue that the rule is an overreach of government and that it creates an undue burden on parents and that it requires some to have to publicly defend their religious or philosophical beliefs.

At a May House Education Committee meeting, MANS opposed the bills from a public health standpoint. While respecting the views of parents who choose not get vaccinations for their children, the greater good and health of the school community takes precedence and ensuring the education of all who make the decision not to get vaccinations is paramount.