



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Testimony of Meg Helming
before the House Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs Committee
in opposition to
HB 524: *repealing the New Hampshire vaccine association.*

February 12, 2025

The YMCA Alliance of Northern New England opposes the passage of HB 524: *repealing the New Hampshire vaccine association.*

Collectively, the eight YMCAs in New Hampshire are one of the largest youth-serving organizations in the state. We serve thousands of children in our early childhood education programs, before/after school programs, and summer camp. These programs provide children with safe, nurturing and enriching care, and are a critical component of our state's infrastructure to support working parents and our economy.

Nothing is more important than the health and safety of the children in our care. This bill would greatly impede access to immunizations for children. Immunizations reduce the likelihood of classroom closure due to outbreaks of communicable diseases, which enables parents to stay in the workforce and provide for their families. For more than 100 years, the New Hampshire YMCAs have proudly supported the healthy development of children, families and adults across the Granite State. In line with our commitment to healthy living, youth development, and social responsibility, we support policies that promote proven public health strategies, including easy access to vaccines, that protect the health of the people we serve and employ.

We urge you to vote inexpedient to legislate on HB 524.

Respectfully submitted,

YMCA Alliance of Northern New England

New Hampshire YMCAs: Carroll County YMCA/Camp Huckins • The Granite YMCA • Keene Family YMCA • Southern District YMCA • Takodah YMCA • YMCA Camp Belnap • YMCA Camp Coniston • YMCA of Greater Nashua

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