

House Committee on Health, Human Services, and
Elderly Affairs
New Hampshire House



February 11th, 2025

Dear Honorable Members of the New Hampshire Committee on Health, Human Services, and Elderly Affairs,

I'm writing today on behalf of SAFE Communities Coalition & Action Fund, a nonprofit dedicated to advancing pro-vaccine policies and legislation. We recognize your critical role in shaping legislation that affects immunization rates and public health, and we appreciate the opportunity to provide testimony on **HB 254**. This bill, which proposes to repeal the New Hampshire Vaccine Association (NHVA), could have a significant impact on vaccine access across the state.

The NHVA is a program that helps keep New Hampshire children healthy by ensuring broad access to vaccines while reducing costs. As you consider HB 254, it's important to recognize the shifting federal landscape for vaccine programs. Changes in funding, supply chains, and policy frameworks could create new challenges, making it even more critical for states to proactively protect and strengthen their immunization programs. Keeping NVHA in place ensures that New Hampshire remains prepared to meet these challenges with a stable, sustainable, and adaptable approach to future challenges.

SAFE Communities Coalition opposes any policy that reduces access to lifesaving vaccines. If HB 254 passes, it could create barriers to immunization in New Hampshire, leading to a decline in vaccination rates. Lower immunization coverage increases the risk of infectious disease outbreaks, threatening both public health and the economic stability of New Hampshire families. We are already seeing resurgences of pertussis and measles in other states around the country, a clear reminder of the consequences when vaccine access is weakened.

Please protect New Hampshire families' access to immunizations and OPPOSE HB 254.

Thank you for your consideration and the work that you do on behalf of all in New Hampshire.

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