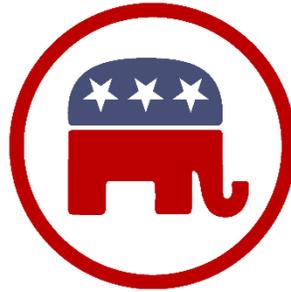


# Press Release [For Immediate Release]



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## **Statement of Opposition to Senate Bill SB163 – Mandatory School Entry Immunization:**

The Democrat Party conveniently supports private and personal "choices" when it comes to so-called medical decisions they want to be able to make, such as killing unborn children before and after birth, but as is often the case with Democrats and liberals, choice is only an option as long as it is a choice with which they agree.

The kind of privacy invasions and parental rights infringements that Colorado State Senate Bill SB163 creates are completely unacceptable and tyrannical. The state has no right or legitimate authority to coerce or require on behalf of children a medical decision advocated by government, or to require notices and explanations from parents in order for parents to retain their rightful and exclusive authority over the health and wellbeing of their children.

Tracking databases for children and parents; state-issued "exemptions" for exercising parental rights or religious beliefs; and state-approved parental education programs are among some of the more heinous provisions of this proposed law. Such draconian invasions and controls of child and family medical decisions by our government should not be acceptable or allowed in a society that values liberty and God-given, unalienable rights – of which one of the most basic is a parent's right to raise their children in the way they feel is right.

Our opposition to this bill is not about opposition to vaccinations; we believe everyone should have the right to make their own choices and decisions about immunizations. This issue exclusively involves foundational principles of liberty, and requires our opposition to a method of tyranny that if allowed, will not stop with vaccination requirements. The precedent here can be utilized by government to control most any aspect of a child's life, or to severely restrict fundamental parental rights.

Governor Polis opposed the 2019 version of this bill because it was too extreme for Colorado. We strongly encourage Governor Polis to veto SB163 if it reaches his desk this year. We also encourage and expect all of Mesa County's legislative delegation to vote against this flawed bill.

*For further media inquiries, please contact Mesa County Republican Party Chairman, Kevin McCarney, at 970-250-5109.*