

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-46

A RESOLUTION OF THE SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OPPOSING RECENTLY INTRODUCED STATE LEGISLATION, SENATE BILL 871 (PAN), WHICH REQUIRES MANDATORY COVID-19 VACCINATION FOR ALL PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS IN CALIFORNIA AND REMOVES EXEMPTIONS FOR PERSONAL BELIEFS. FUTURE DISEASE IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS WOULD BE DETERMINED BY THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH RATHER THAN THE STATE LEGISLATURE

On Tuesday March 15, 2022, on motion of Supervisor Rutherford, duly seconded by Supervisor Baca Jr. and carried, the following resolution is adopted by the Board of Supervisors of San Bernardino County, State of California.

WHEREAS, In fall 2021, Governor Newsom directed the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) to follow the procedures established by the California State Legislature to add the COVID-19 vaccine to other vaccinations, such as measles, mumps, and rubella, required for in-person public school attendance in the state pursuant to the California Health and Safety Code;

WHEREAS, Under California law, students are allowed to forgo vaccines required for in-person attendance at K-12 schools if a doctor says it is medically necessary to do so; however, since current law only applies to previously approved immunizations, the state must offer broad personal belief exemptions for all newly mandated vaccines unless lawmakers and Governor Newsom override that requirement by enacting new legislation;

WHEREAS, On January 24, 2022, Senate Bill (SB) 871 (Pan) was introduced which, if signed into law, would mandate all students attending California public schools receive the COVID-19 vaccination and eliminate the personal belief exemption;

WHEREAS, SB 871 also removes the personal belief exemption from any future or additional immunization requirements that are deemed necessary by the California Department of Public Health;

WHEREAS, Personal belief exemptions have been a time-honored tradition under American law, most notably for conscientious objectors whose personal beliefs have been respected and tolerated, under rights enshrined in the First Amendment to the Constitution;

WHEREAS, Governor Newsom has begun to lift emergency orders and other COVID-19-related state mandates, including lifting the workplace indoor mask mandate as of March 1st and lifting the indoor mask mandate for schools as of March 11th, thereby indicating the state's recognition of rapidly improving public health conditions;

NOW, THEREFORE, The Board of Supervisors of San Bernardino County oppose SB 871 and similar legislation, regulatory efforts, and state mandates which would require mandatory COVID-19 vaccinations without exceptions for personal beliefs. This includes vaccination mandates as a requirement for employment or enrollment in educational institutions, both public and private.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of San Bernardino County, State of California, by the following vote:

AYES: SUPERVISORS: Ayes: Col. Paul Cook (Ret.), Janice Rutherford, Dawn Rowe, Curt Hagman

ABSENT: SUPERVISORS: None

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
)
SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY) **ss.**

LYNNA MCNEEL
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

By

Deputy

