

**House Bill 132**  
**Ohio AAP Talking Points**  
**March 19, 2019**

The Ohio AAP supports transparent, educated, and informed consent immunization legislation to protect Ohio's children from vaccine preventable diseases.

While we appreciate the sponsors' intent for HB 132 to provide information to families about the school immunization mandate, the bill actually gives families a "convenience waiver" to skip vaccinations and reporting rather than educating them, which could lead to lower immunization rates and costly outbreaks in Ohio.

**Any bill regarding immunizations should include the following:**

- A single uniform form for all school districts.
- Standardization for opt outs, as proposed in HB 559, which strikes a better balance between parental rights and the overall health and well-being of Ohio's children. This alternative proposal allows an opt-out, but after a conversation with a health care provider such as a physician, nurse, pharmacist or health department. Conversations with a health care provider are essential to ensure scientific information is shared with parents prior to decisions about immunizing their child.
- Science-based facts and information about vaccines should be made available to parents so that they can make an informed and educated decision about their choices.
- Data should be streamlined and publicly reported so public health officials, parents of immunocompromised children, and other stakeholders will know the opt-out rate at each school building. Families with an immunocompromised child will then have the information they need to make an informed decision about the school environment for their medically fragile child.

**What We Know:**

- We need stronger data to make better public health policy and target our educational efforts to communities that most need it.
- We need families to be making informed choices to protect their children's health.
- We need families to have access to data about immunizations on the school building level to allow them to make informed decisions about their children's school environment, particularly medically fragile and immunocompromised children.
- We need communities to achieve herd immunity to protect all people from infectious disease and prevent outbreaks of diseases.

**What You Can Do:**

- Talk to your legislator about the importance of vaccines.
- Spread the word about Parents Advocating for Vaccines group and join the group on Facebook, Twitter and the [www.ohioaap.org/OhioPA4V](http://www.ohioaap.org/OhioPA4V) website.