

Dear Senate

Please note I do not want my name published on the internet.

I am writing to you to express my concerns over the Government's proposed No Jab No Pay policy.

As a new mother, the choice I have made to not vaccinate my 1 year old daughter was not one I made lightly.

I made this decision after months of research and after witnessing my now 5-year-old nephew become a complete and permanent quadriplegic after developing transverse myelitis 2 days after his 6 month vaccinations. My nephew's health is in such a state that he regularly ends up on life support because a common cold can cause his lungs to shut down as they are not strong enough to breathe under the weight of even mild congestion. He has stopped breathing and been revived with adrenaline shots to the heart more times than we can count. [REDACTED] requires a carer 24 hours of the day, as he will never have control of how bowel or even be able to feed himself. You can only imagine the stress and suffering this causes my family, who live on constant standby that [REDACTED] will require urgent and critical medical attention at any given time.

There is no doubt in my brother and sister-in-law's mind that this illness was caused by [REDACTED] 6 month vaccinations. On the day of his vaccinations he was a perfectly healthy, happy, chubby 6 month old. Within hours of receiving the vaccines, he broke out in a fever and was restless and crying for the next 24 hours. The night after his vaccines, his body fell limp. He stopped breathing in the ambulance half an hour later and had to be revived. If he hadn't been within my sister in law's sight when it happened, he would have died. My family consider themselves extremely lucky that we still have him with him, but you can imagine the quality of life he now has. The fact that the pharmaceutical companies who made these vaccines continue to deny any involvement in my nephew's condition is hurtful, disrespectful and disgusting.

If you wish to better inform yourself on his condition, transverse myelitis, you can read more about it here: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/19880568> This document also discusses how the condition is often caused by vaccines, yet my nephew is denied any compensation that will help improve his quality of life or pay for his care.

Doctors have since discovered that a genetic mutation (the MTHFR gene) made my nephew susceptible to vaccine injury as this MTHFR gene makes it very difficult for the body to expel toxins (such as the heavy metals in vaccines). Unfortunately, we have now learnt that this gene is present in my daughter too.

I can assure you that nothing in this life is more important to me than the health and wellbeing of my daughter, Amity. So it is with caution but also confidence in my research that I choose the risks of not vaccinating my child, over the risks of vaccinating her.

When it comes to the proposed No Jab No Pay policy, the choice for me and my family is clear. Under no circumstances will I risk my daughter becoming a quadriplegic – or worse. The increased costs of childcare will mean it will no longer be financially viable for me to continue in my part time job of 19 hours a week. I have discussed getting a medical exemption with my GP, but she advised me that unless a medical professional witnesses an adverse and serious reaction to a vaccine, my daughter Amity is not eligible for this exemption, despite a similar genetic condition being recorded in her cousin. I asked my GP, how can I, as my daughter's primary carer, ethically choose to vaccinate her for the good of the herd when the risk of her becoming totally and permanently disabled is so very real and close to home? What good is science and research on a topic if we ignore the finer detail it also enlightens us with - that is, ignoring the knowledge that certain individuals are at significant risk if exposed to the same treatment plan?

I urge you as parents of your own beloved children to understand that this “one size fits all” policy will actually be detrimental to certain members of the population, and that as a mother and my daughter's primary carer, I will fight for the right to protect my child's health without being financially coerced or discriminated against. I love my job, but I will choose my daughter's health over employment without hesitation.

I urge you to abandon this discriminative legislation.

I urge you to trust that parents are making informed decisions based on individual circumstances, with our children's best interests at heart. I am not trying to be a hazard to the population. I am not trying to be a renegade constituent. I am simply trying to keep my daughter healthy, and no amount of coercion – financial or otherwise – will convince me that risking my daughter for the sake of anyone else is a risk worth taking. The circumstances are just too dire to comprehend.

Thank you for your time,