

From:
To: [Community Affairs Committee \(SEN\)](#)
Subject: Social Services Legislation Amendment (No Jab, No Pay) Bill 2015
Date: Thursday, 17 September 2015 6:41:33 PM

Dear Committee Secretary,

I would like to voice my concerns over the *Social Services Legislation Amendment (No Jab, No Pay) Bill 2015*.

I am concerned that this bill is trying to tackle the issues of immunisation rates in the wrong way.

Parents and individuals that make the decision to not vaccinate their children or themselves, have most often taken the time to investigate and research the pros and cons of vaccinations for themselves and their families.

It is widely accepted in the medical and scientific community that "herd immunity" comes into play when the community all work together to be hygienic, sanitary and when individuals isolate themselves when unwell. Vaccinated individuals can still carry and contract the diseases they are vaccinated against.

I therefore believe that it is more prudent to invest in community education and understanding around the spread of diseases, in order for us to protect those who are vulnerable (e.g. The elderly, infants and those unable to vaccinate due to medical or personal reasons).

Cutting off vital payments to families attempting to support their children through infancy and early school years is in my opinion unproductive.

I believe the current system that requires parents and individuals to obtain a "Conscionable Objection" form, which has to be signed by a medical practitioner who declares that they have explained the potential risks to not vaccinating, is far better at ensuring that parents are researching and educating themselves on their decisions.

I would like to state that I make these comments as a parent who has opted to vaccinate her children according to the Australian Health Schedule (excepting my youngest child who has allergies).

I would kindly ask that you pass across these concerns to the senate committee as contribution from a member of the community for their inquiry and report.

Many thanks and kind regards,
Camilla Mutton