

February 4, 2026

House Education Subcommittee
Iowa House of Representatives
State Capitol
1007 E. Grand Avenue Des Moines, IA 50319

Dear Committee Members,

I am writing on behalf of the Infectious Disease Prevention Network to respectfully express our opposition to [HF 2171](#) which would remove Iowa's longstanding school immunization requirements for K-12 students and eliminate related enrollment and verification provisions.

Although I do not live in Iowa right now, I was born and raised there (Burlington), graduated from the University of Iowa in Iowa City, and still have family there, including my parents who are both retired K-12 teachers.

The decisions that you make for the state of Iowa have impacts far beyond your borders. Removing school immunization requirements will increase the risk for outbreaks of highly contagious diseases. Families travel outside of Iowa to attend lots of different events, so an outbreak in Iowa can quickly spread to neighboring states. For example, the recent measles outbreak that started in West Texas quickly spread into at least three other states (New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Kansas and across the international border into Mexico). This outbreak also cost the state of Texas over \$35 million dollars.

School immunization requirements help us maintain high vaccination coverage rates so that we can prevent outbreaks of serious diseases like measles and pertussis. Eliminating these requirements will put kids, teachers, and communities at risk, create unnecessary confusion for families and schools, and potentially cost the state millions.

Thank you for your consideration and your service to the children and families of Iowa.

Sincerely,



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