

CHERYL C. KAGAN
Legislative District 17
Montgomery County

Vice Chair
Education, Energy, and
the Environment Committee

at Audit and Evaluation Committee
at Committee on Federal Relations



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THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

February 17, 2023

Hon. Melony G. Griffith
Chair, Senate Finance Committee
Miller Senate Office Building, 3 East Wing
11 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Chair Griffith:

Madame Chair

I am writing to withdraw SB378. This bill would have allowed minors over 14 to be vaccinated. Doctors would have determined whether a minor was able to comprehend the treatment. Seventeen states including Arkansas, Idaho, Louisiana, and North Carolina have already enacted laws to allow some minors to be vaccinated without parental consent. These precedents clearly demonstrate the wisdom and benefit of expanding access to potentially life-saving vaccines.

Unfortunately, I started working on this issue fairly late in the legislative session. We just haven't had the time or staff to fine-tune some aspects of the bill. In the interest of promoting the health and safety of young Marylanders, I will research the issue over the interim.

Please remove SB378 from your hearing schedule on February 22nd.

Many thanks.

Best,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Cheryl C. Kagan'.

Cheryl C. Kagan
Senator, District 17

cc: Senate President Bill Ferguson