

**National Vaccine Information Center  
Testimony Colorado HB 1321  
Senate**

My name is Theresa Wrangham, I live in Colorado and I'm the Executive Director for the National Vaccine Information Center. We oppose HB-1312.

Colorado's existing statutory process provides the health department with vaccine coverage and exemption data from schools and daycares. Federal law provides for the disclosure of personally identifying information from schools to the health department during outbreaks.

Additionally, Colorado could improve rates by resolving access issues and schools enforcing existing statute to collect complete enrollment information, as noted by the CDC.

Instead, HB-1312 exceeds previous stakeholder report recommendations, harasses exemptors by making exemptions harder to obtain, strips exemptors of their federal privacy rights under FERPA, and violates exemptors' freedom of beliefs by requiring health department approval.

It also prevents doctors from exercising their professional judgment and interferes with the doctor-patient relationship by narrowing medical exemption criteria and mandating use of Colorado's vaccine registry. Registry confidentiality allows for third party data-sharing without parental consent, and opting out doesn't remove anyone's name. FERPA requires written parental consent to disclose student information, unless there is a public health or safety emergency.

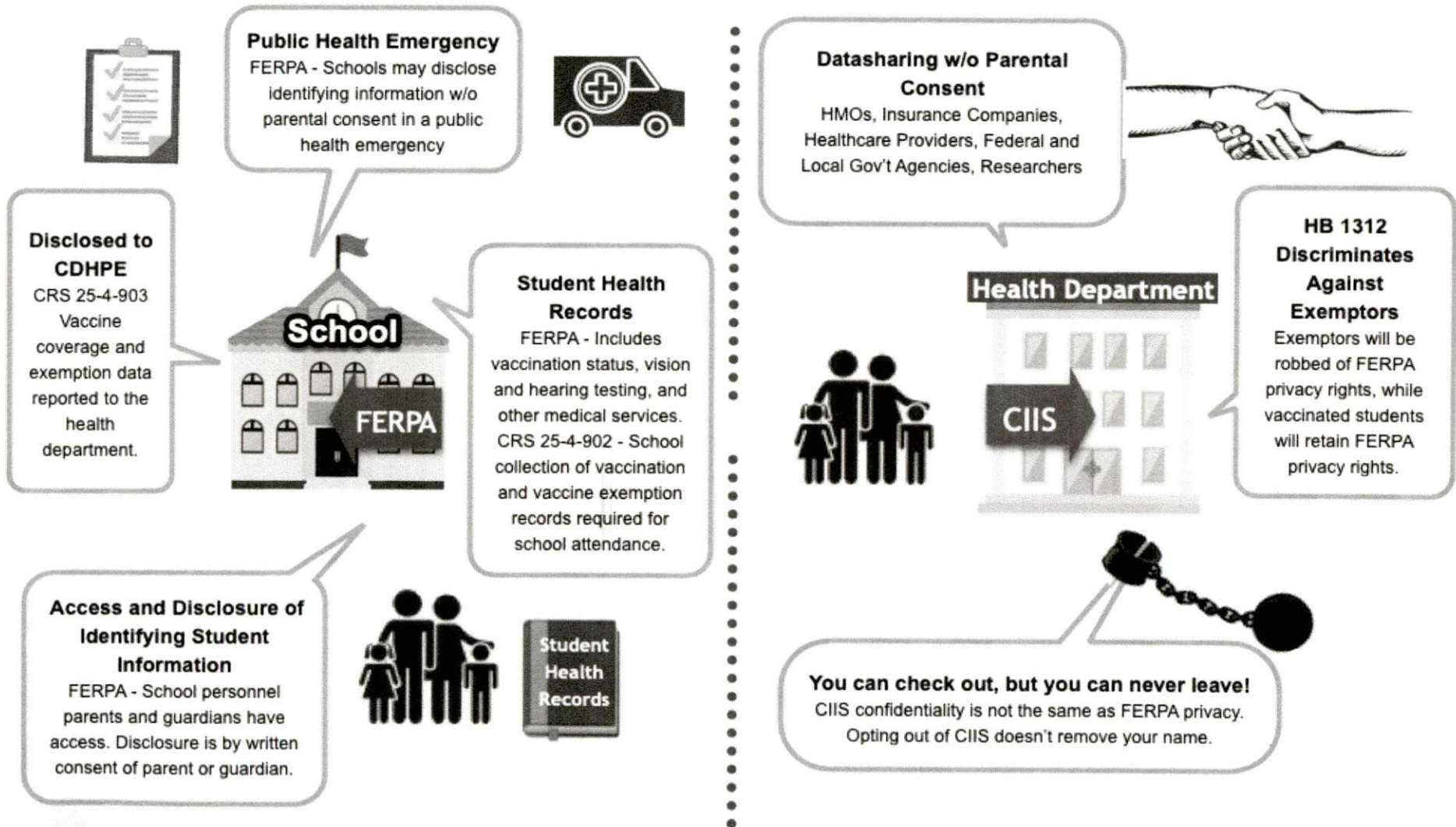
This bill creates needless bureaucracy and expense. It is discriminatory because it gives preference to the fully vaccinated by allowing freedom of beliefs and retention of FERPA rights. A similar bill introduced in Colorado was defeated in 2016.

Passage of this bill would equate to legalizing state sanctioned punishment, discrimination and invasion of privacy of small minority using exemptions.

Colorado's existing process works and NVIC asks for your no vote and support of equal rights for all students. We welcome your questions.

**Existing Standardized Enrollment Process that Protects Federal Student Privacy Rights - FERPA**

**HB 1312 Forces Participation in CIIS and Destroys FERPA Privacy Rights for Exempting Students Only**



**Support ALL Students' Privacy Rights  
VOTE NO on HB 1312**



## National Vaccine Information Center

Your Health. Your Family. Your Choice.  
NVIC.org & NVICAdvocacy.org

### What's the story on Colorado's vaccination rates?

#### Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment vaccine coverage data

- shows high vaccine coverage rates.
- reveals that the number of students with incomplete school vaccination records often exceeds the number of students who exempt from vaccines;
- on K-12 shows that vaccination rates and complete student information improves over time; and
- ***suggests Colorado's school vaccination rates would significantly improve by following CDC recommendation to improve vaccine access and schools enforcing current law to obtain complete student records.***

#### The Center for Disease Control (CDC) says:

*"Parental choice may play some role, but CDC's data really suggests that many of these parents do want to vaccinate their children, but they may not be able to get vaccines for them. They may face hurdles like not having a health care professional near by, not having time to get their children to a doctor, and thinking that they cannot afford vaccines."*

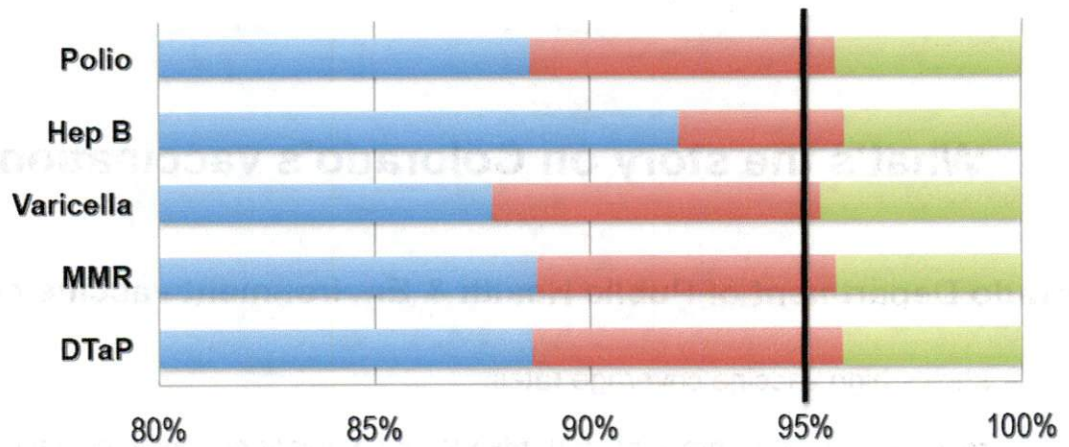
*Dr. Nancy Messonnier, CDC - October 2018 ACIP Meeting on the  
CDC MMWR Vaccination Coverage for Selected Vaccines  
and Exemption Rates Among Children in Kindergarten  
United States, 2017-18 School Year*

*"Vaccination coverage among kindergartners remained high; however, schools can improve coverage by following up with students who are provisionally enrolled, in a grace period, or lacking complete documentation of required vaccinations."*

CDC MMWR Vaccination Coverage for Selected Vaccines  
and Exemption Rates Among Children in Kindergarten  
— United States, 2017-18 School Year

## Colorado 2017/2018 Kindergarten Vaccine Coverage

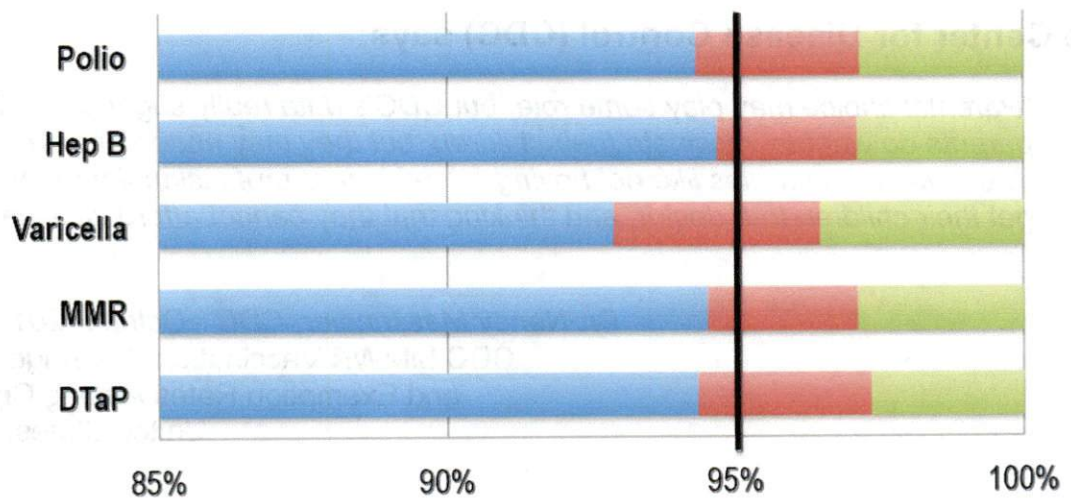
Source: Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment



	DTaP	MMR	Varicella	Hep B	Polio
Fully Vaccinated	88.66%	88.76%	87.73%	92.06%	88.61%
No Record/Incomplete Record	7.20%	6.95%	7.62%	3.85%	7.10%
Exemptions	4.14%	4.29%	4.65%	4.09%	4.29%

## Colorado 2017/2018 K-12 Vaccine Coverage

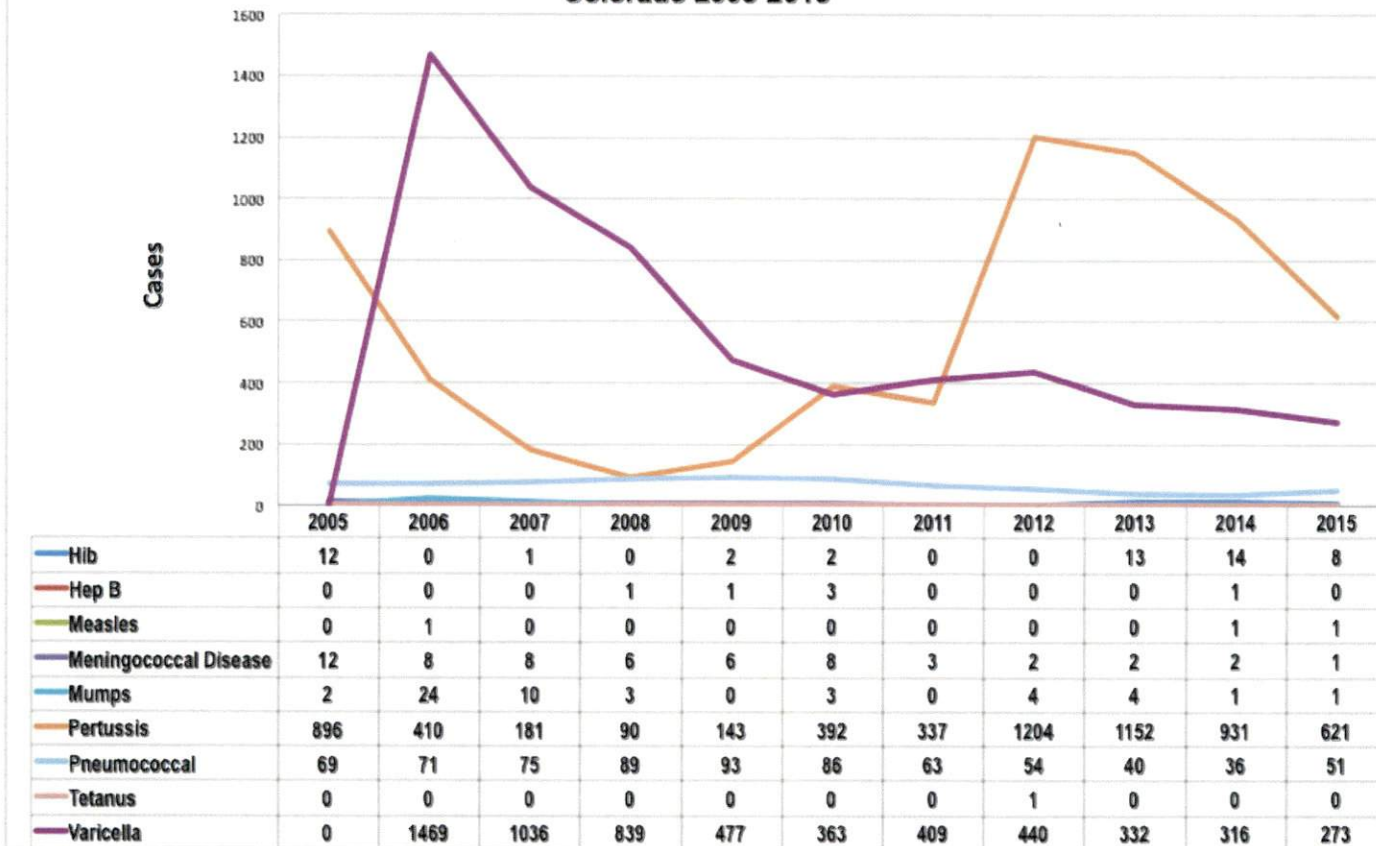
Source: Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment



	DTaP	MMR	Varicella	Hep B	Polio
Fully Vaccinated	94.35%	94.53%	92.89%	94.68%	94.32%
No Record/Incomplete Record	3.01%	2.60%	3.58%	2.44%	2.85%
Exemptions	2.64%	2.87%	3.53%	2.88%	2.83%

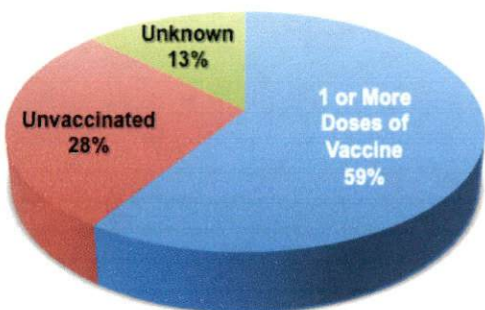
**COLORADO IS HEALTHY AND THERE IS NO PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY:** Colorado's disease rates are low and stable. Though exemption rates may vary year to year, Colorado has ranked in the [top ten healthiest states](#) for several years. Below is information compiled from CDPHE's website from [surveillance reports](#) and [reports of disease by age](#). However, as of March 1, 2019 official surveillance summary reports for 2016 and 2017 had not been issued. Additionally, CDPHE's reporting changed in 2012 and now prevents breaking down more current vaccine surveillance data shown in the pie charts below on varicella (chickenpox) and pertussis (whooping cough).

**Reported Cases in 0-19 Year Olds - Source CDPHE  
Colorado 2005-2015**



**Colorado Vaccination Status Varicella Cases - All Ages  
2005-2011 Total Cases 6,628**

Source: Colorado Department of Health & Environment (CDPHE)



**Colorado Pertussis Cases Vaccination Status 7mo-17 Yrs  
2005-2011 Total Cases 1,265**

Source: Colorado Department of Health & Environment (CDPHE)

