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Hello Members of the Senate Human Services Committee,

I am writing to you today in opposition to SB 2133, regarding paramedics and first responders administering vaccinations. I am recommending a DO NOT PASS action on this bill because the wording below does not specifically say that the patient needs to be awake, coherent and able to sign a form giving the paramedic / first responder permission for any such vaccinations. The wording is vague and allows for medical personnel to decide for the patient if he / she is unconscious, as to whether the patient “needs” a vaccine or not. THIS IS TOTALLY UNACCEPTABLE.

The section I highlighted below, may give the medical director some “permission” to vaccinate patients against their will if the CDC has proclaimed some pandemic or claims vaccinating every patient will protect the masses. There is absolutely no reason that a patient on route to the ER would immediately need a vaccination of any kind. That should be done when the patient is out of immediate danger, they are calm and collected and can make an informed decision as to whether or not they need a vaccine or not. Vaccinating a patient while in medical distress from heart attack, stroke, auto accident or other trauma could further harm the patient. PLEASE VOTE NO on the amendment of this SECTION 2. AMENDMENT. Section 23-27-04.9 of the North Dakota Century Code .

23-27-04.9. Administration of influenza vaccination / vaccinations.

1. A licensed emergency medical technician-paramedic working for a hospital or an emergency medical services operation may administer the influenza vaccine to an individual who is at least eighteen years of age if:

a. The physician providing oversight for the emergency medical services operation or the hospital medical director has established protocols that meet department standards that may be based on the advisory committee on immunization practices of the federal centers for disease control and prevention; and

b. The emergency medical technician-paramedic has satisfactorily completed a department-approved course on administering vaccines.

2. If a hospital or emergency medical services operation allows the administration of vaccines under this section, the hospital or emergency medical services operation shall maintain records

documenting the emergency medical technician-paramedic's completion of the training required under subsection 1. These records are subject to review by the department.

THANK YOU !!! Lisa Pulkrabek