

# HEALTHY CHILDREN BELONG IN SCHOOL

House Democratic leaders are in strong support of repealing the religious exemption in the State of Connecticut. This legislation, if passed, will deny thousands of healthy children their right to equal protection and public education. It will also discriminate and segregate them on the grounds of their religious beliefs. According to the CT Constitution, this is a violation of art. VIII, § 1 and art. I, § 20.



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## RELIGIOUS EXEMPTIONS & VACCINE PREVENTABLE ILLNESSES

MEASLES, MUMPS & RUBELLA

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**A Historical  
Look at the  
Effect of  
Religious  
Exemptions on  
Outbreaks in  
Connecticut**



1

## Religious Exemptions Have Not Affected the Number of Measles, Mumps & Rubella Outbreaks

The rise in religious exemptions since 2003 has not had an impact on the decreasing trend for measles, mumps, and rubella cases in the state of Connecticut. Those that exercise their religious freedom to not vaccinate are therefore not a public health threat.

2

## Primary Vaccine Failure Causes Outbreaks in Fully Immunized Populations

The CDC acknowledges that one dose of the MMR vaccine leaves 22%, 7% and 3% of mumps, measles and rubella recipients unprotected, respectively. A second booster dose slightly improves antibody response to 12% and 3% for mumps and measles. This shows that even with 100% vaccination coverage, there will still be outbreaks within fully vaccinated populations.

3

## Secondary Vaccine Failure Causes Outbreaks in Fully Immunized Populations

Studies show that vaccines wane anywhere between a few years to 10 years after inoculation. Outbreaks of measles and mumps have occurred in fully vaccinated young adult populations with close contact settings, such as universities. Mathematical models of one such study confirm that waning immunity to the vaccine is the central role in the re-emergence of mumps cases in the US.

