

February 11, 2020-02-11

Re: HB 2601

Dear Education Committee Members,

On November 22, 2016 our lives were changed forever. My healthy 13 year old was given a flu and HPV vaccination. I declined the HPV shot 4 times because I had a bad feeling about it, but my pediatrician insisted that she would get throat cancer from kissing if I did not give her this vaccine. I was not given informed consent, and will regret letting them give my daughter the Gardasil 9 shot for the rest of my life. After pulling her medical records I learned it was her 37th injection and the 51st vaccine that had been put into her body since birth.

Before the shot, Lauren was an elite athlete and an honor student. She played on a regional soccer team and was one of the best defenders for her age in the state. She also played tennis, guitar, was active in her church, straight A student, and was a member of the national junior honor society. She was offered a spot on a national soccer team shortly after her vaccine injury.

After the shot, Lauren had an adverse reaction. She developed chronic fatigue and headpain...every second of every day. She also told me, "Mom", my brain isn't working right". She was trying to keep count of reps she was doing for a training exercise and her brain was unable to remember the numbers. She was diagnosed with mitochondria damage and still struggles with her short-term memory and processing information. Her headaches are usually between a 5-8. Ten being the most pain you can imagine or for example a bear tears your arm off. Nothing takes her pain away, not even prescription meds. We have tried everything under the sun these past 3 years to try to heal her body. She says the fatigue bothers her the worst. I asked her what it felt like and she said its like she hasn't slept in 500 days. The vaccine also triggered her body to launch an attack on itself. At one point here ANA levels were 1:1280, which is an extremely alarming rate. She has since developed autoimmunity of her thyroid and it is likely that she will continue to develop multiple autoimmune disorders because of her reaction. She now has a 500% increased risk of cancer (based on studies) because of the cell damage she has endured.

Lauren can no longer participate in any sports or extra activities. She can't even play the guitar anymore because it makes her head hurt worse and her brain doesn't function like it used to. Heat and physical activities make her feel worse as well. She is no longer an honor student and had to stop taking the advanced classes that she would have taken.

We spend on average \$2,500 per month (out of pocket) on her treatment and recovery

plan. Hundreds of doctors appointments, blood test, scans, IV infusions, pills, supplements, and the extra burden of eating an organic diet that is free of gluten, dairy & refined sugar.

I have learned a lot these past few years. Nothing is one size fits all. My daughter is compound heterozygous for 2 snips of the MTHFR gene. Because of this, she has detox deficiencies which put her at a high risk for vaccine reactions. Unfortunately, I didn't learn about this until it was too late. Watching your child's health and life be taken from them is soul crushing. This has affected our entire family and I am still grieving for the life that she once had.

If we are not given the right to choose what medical procedures are best for our families, then we are not living in a free land. Where there is a risk, there must be a choice. Thank you for taking to time to hear Lauren's story.

Heather Miller

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