



While we are disappointed in the decision to pull SB 866, we are deeply appreciative of Senator Wiener, Dr. Pan, and their colleagues in the Vaccine Work Group for taking on this fight.

Our coalition believes young people have the right to live healthy, happy lives. It's a public health issue, an equity issue, and a human rights issue. Californians understand that protecting public health is one of the most important responsibilities of their government.

Californians support public health measures and public health candidates. Three times in the early 2000s, Californians rejected draconian parental consent ballot initiatives pushed by anti-abortion extremists. This year, we are poised to codify the right to an abortion in our state's constitution. This year, the California Legislature passed bills that fight the spread of disinformation, establish a viral surveillance program, expand public health's toolbox, and ensure schools remain open and safe.

Against this backdrop of support for public health, however, MAGA Republicans are trying to normalize an extreme agenda that rejects California's values. But we know where Californians stand. Californians continue to affirm in public polling and at the ballot box that teens should have the legal authority to make healthcare decisions for themselves. Californians continue to affirm where they stand on abortion, on gun control, and on the environment.

The teens, adults, and public health experts that stand up for the agency of teens to choose vaccines won't back down. We will keep fighting to guarantee human rights for all and reject the extreme agenda working against government's responsibility to protect public health.

We will not give up the fight to pass legislation guaranteeing the right of teens to choose vaccines.