For every $1 spent on childhood vaccinations, Texans save at least $10.²

TEXAS REPUBLICANS OVERWHELMINGLY SUPPORT STRONG VACCINATION LAWS

RESULTS OF A JULY 2018 STATEWIDE SURVEY OF REPUBLICAN PRIMARY VOTERS³

86 percent support current laws requiring children to be immunized to attend public school.

67 percent support the government having a role in reducing the number of vaccine-preventable deaths.

68 percent oppose allowing parents to opt out of providing their children required school vaccines for nonmedical reasons.

NONMEDICAL SCHOOL VACCINE EXEMPTIONS ARE SOARING

From 2003 to 2018, Texas has seen a more than 2,300-percent increase in exemptions.¹

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CHILD DISEASES AND VACCINES IN TEXAS

Vaccines are safe, cost-effective, and proven to protect children from potentially deadly infectious diseases.

However, with the availability and subsequent surge in nonmedical school vaccine exemptions since 2003, some of these diseases are making a dangerous comeback. Overall, the majority of Texans, including Republican primary voters, overwhelmingly support strong vaccination laws to protect our Texas youth.

THE TEXAS PUBLIC HEALTH COALITION RECOMMENDS:

1. Oppose efforts to weaken school vaccination requirements.
2. Support measures to improve vaccination rates and lower risks for outbreaks.
3. Support SB 329 to improve government transparency about existing school data to help gauge vulnerability to outbreak. SB 329 grants parents and guardians the right to access de-identified information on vaccination rates and vaccine exemptions at their child’s school. This is essential information for parents of medically fragile children.

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The Texas Public Health Coalition is a coalition of health professional organizations and health-focused organizations dedicated to disease prevention and health promotion.

MEMBERS

Alzheimer’s Association
American Heart Association
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Texas
Children’s Hospital Association of Texas
The Cooper Institute
Harris County Public Health
The Immunization Partnership
March of Dimes
Methodist Healthcare Ministries
Texas Academy of Family Physicians
Texas Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics
Texas Academy of Physician Assistants
Texas Association of City & County Health Officials
Texas Association of Community Health Centers
Texas eHealth Alliance
Texas Health Institute
Texas Hospital Association
Texas Medical Association
Texas Nurses Association
Texas Oral Health Coalition, Inc.
Texas Osteopathic Medical Association
Texas Pediatric Society
Texas Physicians for Social Responsibility
Texas Public Health Association
Texas Renal Coalition
Texas School Nurses Organization
Texas State Alliance of YMCAs
United Ways of Texas

REFERENCES

1 www.dshs.texas.gov/immunize/coverage/schools
3 www.texaslyceum.org/page-18271
4 www.texmed.org/TexasMedicineDetail.aspx?id=48190

RESOURCES

CANCER PREVENTION AND RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF TEXAS
MD ANDERSON CANCER CENTER
MICHAEL AND SUSAN DELL CENTER FOR HEALTHY LIVING
TAMU COLLEGE OF PHARMACY
TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES
PARTNERSHIP FOR A HEALTHY TEXAS

REFERENCE SOURCES