Dear Senators of the Education Committee,

My name is Sara Soltani-Gobet and I am a constituent of District 17.

I am before you today in opposition of SB 895, with the amendment -2 that was added after the testimony deadline yesterday afternoon.

My family has only ever been seen by Naturopathic Physicians. My sons Dr, Leigh Ann Chapman ND. Signed my sons non-medical exemption. This bill would render it null & void. You see, my son (and my family) is Compound Heterozygous MTHFR and has many other Single Nucleotide Polymorphisms. What this means is that his methylation cycle is severely impaired making it difficult for his body to detoxify. 95% of autistic children have the MTHFR gene mutation. Regressive autism is what happens to children like mine- he is fully functioning and appears neurotypical, but he would be unable to handle being vaccinated further as his Mercury & Aluminum levels are already alarmingly high. Being that this is a disorder that means the body must be supplemented with specific nutrients like 1-methylfolate instead of synthetic folic acid, It is imperative that we continue to see a ND who has extensive training in nutrition, instead of an MD who is required to receive little to no training in nutrition during medical school.

This bill with its amendment, removes my ability as a parent to obtain the best medical care for my child, while still being allowed to keep his non-medical exemption so that he may attend his private Montessori school. Being forced to try to find an MD to sign an exemption based on his methylation issues will be difficult and I assure you the list that qualifies for a medical exemption is far too small- so it will become very difficult if not impossible for many to get a signed non-medical exemption moving forward.

I urge you to reconsider passing this bill. Senator Hayward continues to try to advance her own agenda, one that does not serve best the citizens of this great state.

Thank you for your time and for allowing me to speak before you today.

Sincerely,

Sara Soltani-Gobet