



**STAND WITH PARENTS, PROTECT OUR KIDS**  
**Support the Cruz Amendment to**  
**Defund Coercive School-Based COVID-19 Vaccine Mandates**

Today, the Senate will consider a short-term, \$1.6 trillion continuing resolution (CR) to fund the Federal government through March 11, 2022. Senator Cruz is leading an amendment that would protect the rights of parents to make medical decisions for the more than 81 million U.S. children 19 years old and under. The Cruz Amendment would defund school-based COVID-19 vaccine mandates affecting children.

Senator Cruz's amendment **prohibits** federal funding provided under the CR from being distributed to schools, child care centers and Head Start facilities that have a COVID-19 vaccine mandate related to enrollment, in-person attendance, and participation in school-sponsored activities.

The amendment would restrict federal funding from being made available to any entity, school, center or facility that imposes such a mandate, including:

- State and local educational agencies
- Public schools and charter schools
- Private or parochial schools
- Child care centers
- Head Start facilities

The protections would also prohibit vaccine-status discrimination to ensure schools do not use coercion, like denial of participation in school sports teams, music programs, field trips, and school dances, unless a child is vaccinated against COVID-19.

The Cruz amendment would provide protections to children up to 20 years of age against forced and coercive vaccinations and protects the rights of their parents to make the health care decisions that are right for their child.

No government official should be able to threaten the denial of a child's right to an education unless the child receives a COVID-19 vaccine. Congress must protect our children and adopt the Cruz amendment.