



PRESS RELEASE: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MOUNTAIN VIEW, CA

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Violence is Never the Answer

AVFCA would like to take Senator Pan up on his offer to have a policy conversation on SB276

Sacramento – A Voice for Choice Advocacy condemns any and all acts of violence - which absolutely includes any violence against our State Legislators. While A Voice for Choice Advocacy does not support the goal of Senator Pan, as outlined in SB 276, we rely on our ability to communicate our message in a way that resonates with the public and the legislature. “A Voice for Choice Advocacy fights for vaccine choice and healthcare rights because we believe a forced medical procedure is an act of violence against someone’s body. Never would we partake in or encourage acts of violence against another person’s body, no matter what the disagreements may be. We condemn yesterday’s physical interaction with Senator Pan by Austin Bennett. Violence Is Never The Answer.” Said Christina Hildebrand, A Voice for Choice Advocacy’s President.

Both yesterday and previously Austin Bennett has drawn sharp criticism from within the Healthcare Rights movement, and is not considered a part of it. All other organizations opposing vaccine mandates and SB276 have come out vilifying Austin Bennett’s intentions and actions.

The State Capitol is a place for civil, professional and at times lively debate over important policy measures that have an impact on all Californians and beyond. It is our sincere hope that A Voice for Choice Advocacy not be stereotyped by this type of behavior and that we continue to be perceived as a fact and science based voice in the SB 276 debate. We look forward to continuing to partner with Capitol Staff and Legislators to ensure that if SB276 is passed, that it is rational, factual and does no harm. We hope the legislators also recognize the high emotions on both sides of SB 276 and review and vote on the bill from a policy perspective rather than a political or emotional perspective.

In a statement today, Senator Pan said “An honest, civil debate grounded in science and facts of the merits of legislation is always welcome.” A Voice for Choice Advocacy has requested to meet with Senator Pan multiple times to have a civil conversation over concerns regarding SB276, and in 2015 over SB277, but has never been provided an opportunity by the Senator to discuss our position with him. We welcome Senator Pan’s offer now to have that conversation and will reach out to schedule such a meeting.

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Giving issues a voice, A Voice for Choice Advocacy advocates for people’s rights to be fully informed about the composition, quality, and short- and long-term health effects of all products that go into people’s bodies, such as food, water, air, pharmaceuticals and cosmetics.

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