



Sensible Action For Ending Mercury-Induced
Neurological Disorders

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New Data Showing First Drop in 20 Years Provides Cautious Hope That Vaccine Induced Autism On Decline

**SafeMinds Launches Grassroots Educational Campaign in Support of HR.
4169;**

New Weldon Bill Would Remove Mercury From All Vaccine Products

Washington, D.C.— SafeMinds—America’s leading scientific organization investigating the risks that mercury-containing medical products pose to our children—expressed cautious optimism over a recent report (April 2004) from the California Department of Developmental Services (DDS) that showed, for the first time in 20 years, a decrease in new requests for autism related services for two consecutive quarters. **“This information does give us hope, but we will monitor future data to be sure this is in fact a real trend downward versus a one-time anomaly. For now, autism remains an epidemic that must be stopped,”** said Lyn Redwood, RN, MSN, NP, president of SafeMinds.

The results of this new report are consistent with the time frame involved in the removal of Thimerosal from infant vaccines recommended by the U.S. Public Health Service and the American Academy of Pediatrics in 1999. **“Since it would take approximately five years for such a policy to see results, this new data would be right on track with our expectations,”** continued Redwood.

Thimerosal is a mercury-laden preservative that has been used in many vaccines since the 1930’s, but in the last decade has been linked to neurodevelopment disorders like America’s autism epidemic in children. While it has been taken out of some childhood vaccines, children are still at risk of exposure through many common vaccines like flu shots and other immunizations.

“SafeMinds is confident that the scientific data will continue to strengthen our efforts to protect our children,” Redwood said. **“We are also pleased with some of the efforts being undertaken on Capitol Hill to protect Americans from dangerous neurotoxin’s like Thimerosal. SafeMinds is launching a new educational campaign that we hope will result in overwhelming public support for HR. 4169.”**

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HR.4169, the “Mercury Free Vaccine Act of 2004,” was recently introduced by Rep. Dave Weldon, M.D., (R-FL), which would remove mercury from all vaccine products. SafeMinds is leading a national grassroots effort to gain support and passage of this bill.

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