

To: Sen. Laurie Monnes Anderson

Ref: SB132 – Promotes informed decision making among parents on vaccines.

Dear Senator Anderson:

Thank you for taking the time to read this very important request. The lives of children saved could be immeasurable.

My name is Frankie Milley. I am the mother of an only child, Ryan who died from a form of vaccine preventable meningococcal disease. He was 18 just reached his pro golf status, just graduated high school and preparing for college.

Ryan became ill on Father's Day 1998 with a fever and earache and within 14 hours he had blood coming from every orifice of his body and death. The medical examiner told me, had he lived he would have lost his vision, his hearing, his arms and legs, that his adrenal glands and kidneys were ruptured and he had severe brain damage.

Ryan was vaccinated against all the diseases there were vaccines for at the time. I was never informed about the disease or the vaccine that could have prevented this disease. Because of that Ryan is dead.

Since Ryan's death I have made sure that when a state is considering laws or mandates that can protect the lives of children through vaccines or education on diseases and prevention I weigh in. I do this in Ryan's memory. I never want another parent to lose their child because they were not informed of the consequences of not vaccinating.

Oregon, as I am sure you know has the highest rates of non medical exemptions of any state in the country. This also means that the children of your state are at the highest risk for deadly and debilitating preventable disease.

Today many parents are making decisions not to vaccinate because there are too many who voice their uneducated and unfounded opinions on disease and the vaccines to prevent them. Until parents see and hear the truth and facts about these diseases and understand the horrors of an infant literally choking and struggling for each breath until death with pertussis, or watching their child's face, arms and legs fall off from meningococcal disease, or be left severely debilitated and fighting everyday for the rest of their lives to live as a result of pneumococcal disease, or lose their vision from measles or die from secondary infections of chicken pox or from influenza they truly can't understand the dangers of not vaccinating.

I believe if infants and children had a choice between deadly vaccine preventable diseases or a vaccine, they would choose vaccine. However they don't have that choice so we have to make that choice for them, the choice of true science, good health and life.

Passing SB132 gives infants and children that chance by educating their parents on the facts about disease and prevention. SB132 at the very least gives parents the ability to make an informed decision. Please do the right thing for the children of Oregon and pass SB132.

Respectfully,

Frankie Milley

For more information on meningitis and other deadly diseases visit www.Meningitis-Angels.org
To reach Frankie Milley
Call- 713.444.1074 or E-mail at FMilley@aol.com