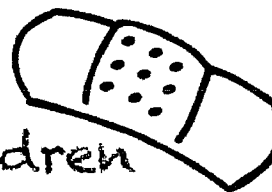


Oregonians for Healthy Children Immunization Education Campaign



SB 132 Immunization Education

Oregon has the worst rate of non-medical immunization exemptions for kindergartners in the U.S. During the past ten years, the state has seen a doubling in immunization exemption rates for children. This high exemption rate could increase the incidence of vaccine-preventable diseases such as measles and whooping cough.

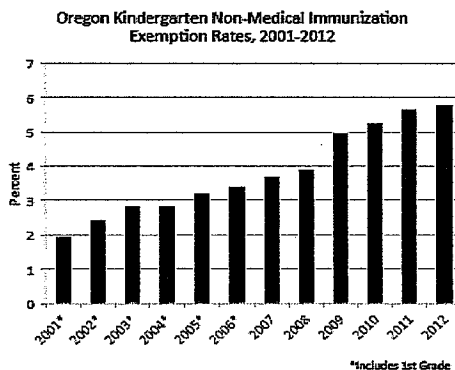
SB 132 will require parents who request an exemption from immunization requirements to either complete an online educational video or talk with their health care provider about immunizations, vaccine-preventable diseases and community immunity. Current law requires children in child care and school to submit a form verifying they have received required vaccines. Parents who choose not to vaccinate their children currently submit a form stating their exemption. This new law will require those parents to also submit either a provider signature or a certificate verifying that they have received education about the risks associated with not immunizing their child. In 2011, Washington passed similar legislation resulting in a 25% decrease in immunization exemptions in that state.

Immunizations save lives

- ✓ Immunizations are an easy and effective way to keep our children, families and communities safe and healthy.
- ✓ To prevent diseases such as measles and pertussis, 94 percent immunization rate is required to achieve "herd immunity."
- ✓ The best defense against vaccine-preventable diseases is a well-immunized community. This will also protect children who cannot be immunized due to age or medical condition.

Far too many Oregon children are not immunized

- ✓ Oregon has the worst rate of non-medical immunization exemptions for kindergartners in the US. The rate has more than doubled in the last decade.
- ✓ For the 2011-12 school year, the non-medical exemption rate was as high as 76 percent in some Oregon schools.
- ✓ In 2012, Oregon has had more than 800 cases of pertussis, the highest rate since the 1950s.



Parents need access to medically-based information about immunizations and vaccine-preventable diseases.

- ✓ Although, most parents understand the importance of immunizing their children, the exemption rates for non-immunized children are increasing.
- ✓ Most parents seek information online about vaccines; information that is often inaccurate and incomplete. This legislation will ensure parents can get credible, medically-based information about immunizations and vaccine-preventable diseases.
- ✓ When parents choose to exempt their child from the required immunizations, this legislation will ensure they learn the risks to their child and others in the community.

Please pass SB 132 to promote informed decision making among parents about immunizations.

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Oregonians for Healthy Children is a coalition led by:

Oregon Pediatric Society
A Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics