



Testimony to the Senate Health Care and Human Services Committee
In support of SB 132

Submitted by Jean Donovan, RN, PhD

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of Senate Bill 132.

My name is Jean Donovan and I am a nurse and a member of the Oregon Nurses Association's Cabinet on Health Policy. I'm testifying on behalf of ONA.

ONA, and nurses throughout the state support wellness promotion and disease prevention. This is a core tenant of ONA's Health Policy Platform, and indeed, policies that help prevent disease not only keep people well, but also reduce costs of caring for Oregonians.

Senate Bill 132 provides a reasonable step in making sure that parents who choose not to have their children vaccinated against preventable diseases have carefully considered that choice and are presented with unbiased and medically accurate information about immunizations, vaccine-preventable diseases, and herd-immunity.

In this day, when so much is available on the internet, parents are bombarded with information, much of which is innaccurate and not based in science. This bill will assure that parents have accurate information when making a choice about their child's health care.

As nurses, we support policies that help our patients make informed decisions about their health care, and Senate Bill 132 does just that. It's our hope that when presented with more information about the risks and benefits of vaccination, more parents will chose to vaccinate their children, protecting not just their children, but their classmates, neighbors, and community from preventable and potentially very serious diseases.

I urge you to support Senate Bill 132.