

Subject: testimony for SB895

Dear Senate Education Committee:

Vote No on Oregon SB 895.

I just learned that amendment -2 to SB895 was posted on the Ollis website this afternoon, less than 24 hours before the public hearing on this bill. In the amendment it seems that most of the Draconian legislation that was part of SB442 has appeared again. Sen. Steiner-Hayward has sneaked legislation into the Education Committee that was defeated in the Healthcare Committee. Oregonians who value our human, civil and personal rights oppose the language and intent of this bill, regardless of which committee it is proposed through. We will continue to oppose this overreach of legislative power. The right to decline medical procedures that bear known risks is a basic human right...we should have learned this during WWII and the Nuremberg trials.

- I object to removal of the vaccine education module in lieu of a physician's signature verifying the patient has been lectured on the risks and benefits of immunization. The module is sufficient and does not put undue burden on families who will have to take time off work and pay for another doctor's visit.
- I object to not allowing Naturopaths to provide their signature that they have counselled their patients about vaccines. Naturopaths are licensed physicians and provide primary care to my family and many others I know. They are just as qualified to discuss vaccinations with their patients as MDs. And why would a less educated physician's assistant or nurse practitioner be more qualified to discuss vaccinations with a patient than a licensed naturopath?
- I object to requiring schools to publish records of students with a vaccine exemption. Though the reports are supposed to be anonymous, it's highly likely that word will get out as to who is exempt. This will result in shaming and discrimination against students and families by those who have an irrational fear of unvaccinated children, most of whom are selectively vaccinated against the most dangerous diseases anyway.

Please vote no on SB895-2.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Schmidt
Ashland, OR