

Dear Oregon Senate Education Committee,

Thank you for your time and consideration of my letter.

As you may be aware, SB 442 died in committee probably because of a large amount of public objections. The public being those whom you represent. Why then is it being considered as an amendment to SB 895? Which of you believe you are more qualified than all individuals in determining what medical/health decisions to make for children?

I have no problem with collecting information on vaccination rates. I have no problem with parents who choose TO vaccinate or choose NOT TO vaccinate their children or themselves. I have a big problem with any representative who believes a right should be eliminated. In my opinion, that is any of you who support the amendment to SB895 that makes a doctor's opinion superior to a parent's opinion or even required for a parent to make a decision. We know doctors have knowledge and we know we can ask them if we choose. They are not the only source of information and parents are ultimately more interested in the well-being of their children, than anyone else.

You took an oath to protect and defend the Constitution of the US. That document protects individuals and their rights and freedoms to make health decisions for their families.

Please respect that.

Sincerely,

Courtenay Ellison