

From: A Wood [mailto:darren_wood@msn.com]

Sent: Thursday, April 16, 2015 10:31 PM

To: Sen Roblan

Subject: SB895

Dear Senator Roblan,

SB895-5 looks poised to pass through the Senate Committee on Education tomorrow, although I sincerely hope it does not. The latest of many amendments to this bill contains language I question:

- *“(10) Criteria for a vaccine educational module, including the requirement that a vaccine educational module present information that is consistent with information published by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention concerning: “(a) Epidemiology; “(b) The prevention of disease through the use of vaccinations; and “(c) The safety and efficacy of vaccines; and “(11) Documentation required to verify completion of a vaccine educational module, including the qualifications of persons who may certify the completion.*

Companies who manufacture vaccines provide package inserts listing possible side effects. The one insert I saw was 33 inches long and written in tiny print. That's a lot of possible side effects *coming from the people who make vaccines*, not stereotypical anti-science granola types. Yet the vaccine education module proposed here would present information consistent with the CDC, an entity that promotes vaccination, and discuss only the safety and efficacy of vaccines. It troubles me deeply that proponents of this bill speak as if vaccines are harmless. In truth, they are powerful pharmaceutical products that have injured and even killed people. You may be aware that no one in the US has died from measles in the past ten years, but over 100 deaths have followed injection of the MMR vaccine in that same time period. Parents absolutely deserve to know the risks too. Also, what kind of documentation are we talking about here, and certified by whom?

Also of concern:

- *“(4) The department shall work with stakeholders to: “(a) Design and implement an accountability system of progressive interventions for schools and school districts that do not demonstrate improvement; and “(b) Provide technical assistance to schools and school districts that do not demonstrate improvement.*

This is very vague and, at the same time, quite ominous sounding! As I asked in a prior letter, are schools with high exemption rates to be put in the outrageously inappropriate position of intermediary between parents and the state to get those exemption rates down? This language needs further clarification.

SB895 sets Oregon on a slippery slope toward the loss of medical privacy and places burdens on schools that are in no way related to educating children. It doesn't provide true education about benefits *and* risks. Earlier amendments would have eroded trust between parents and healthcare providers, this latest version looks to do the same to schools and families who choose to exempt their children from vaccines. I really hope you won't let this bill pass on your watch.

Respectfully,

Alison Wood