

My name is Andrea Valenzuela. I am writing to express my opposition to HB 3063. The removal of philosophical and religious exemptions is unconstitutional under the 14th amendment. An individual has the right (not something granted to them by the government) to choose what they put into their body. Medical procedures are far from a one size fits all. No medication will affect every single individual in the same manner. For example, the same medication that makes one person drowsy makes another energetic. Similarly, the same MMR vaccine that can pass through the system of one child with seemingly no effects, made my child convulse in her sleep. There are thousands and thousands of parents like me. We want our children to lead long, healthy and productive lives. I know in my soul that if I had continued to vaccinate my daughter, that she would have a seizure disorder had I not made the decision to discontinue.

We all want the best for our children. I won't pretend that we all will arrive at what we deem best by the same road, but I can say with unshakable confidence that we MUST maintain our rights to choose what we know in our hearts to be best for them. Medical freedom, again, is not a right granted by the government, but a right granted to us by our Creator. Please remember that, it may not be something that you object to today, but it may be tomorrow.

Where there is risk, there MUST be choice.