

To the Oregon House Health Care Committee:

I am a resident of Beaverton, Oregon. I am mother of two toddlers. My four year old (Jude) attends the Beaverton Early Education Center, and my youngest turned three today and will begin preschool in the fall.

First off, I am NOT anti-vaccine. We started my first born on a modified vaccine schedule at two months. At four months, he started having full body shuddering episodes. We continued with his vaccines. At 5 months, he had to begin seeing a neurologist because the shuddering has increased to 18-20 times/day. I can't tell you what a scary time this was for us. Thankfully, we determined he was not having seizures, but that he was having some sort of neurological episodes. Our pediatrician and neurologist recommended we discontinue vaccines until he was older.

Sadly, this did not end our battle with his brain. My son has struggled with severe developmental delays. He did not crawl until after he was 1. He did not walk until he was almost two, and at age 3 he was still not speaking at all. In addition to the neurologist, we had to see a developmental pediatrician, an occupational therapist, a physical therapist, various speech pathologists, and were even referred to Shriner's to see a specialist there. We have spent thousands of dollars out of pocket to ensure he has the best medical care.

In addition, we discovered through genetic testing that Jude has the MTHFR genetic mutation, which makes it difficult for him to eliminate toxins from his body. We will never know if Jude's body reacted to the vaccines he received. We will never know how much worse it could have become if we continued to vaccinate him. But I can tell you as a mother, I know to my core that the vaccines set off an episode in his body that he still hasn't recovered from. He is now four and is in a special public school for children with delays and disabilities.

PLEASE, these are the kids you aren't considering with this bill. I don't have enough proof of an injury to receive a medical exemption for him. Why should Jude be excluded from attending public school because of his special needs?

Please do not support Bill 3063, which would eliminate non-medical vaccination exemptions for school children in Oregon. I am not going to send you all of the anti-vaccine info you are currently receiving. I am simply here to plead with you. **Please don't keep my son away from the education he should receive as an American because we are unable to continue to vaccinate him.** A one-size-fits-all approach does not work.

Sincerely,

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