## Happy Wednesday!

I am writing to let you know that I oppose HB 3603, the bill to remove philosophical and religious exemptions from schoolchildren in Oregon. Not only do we already have high vaccination rates (only 2.7% are partially or fully unvaccinated), but there is no outbreak in Oregon.

The outbreak in Washington was among a group of Soviet Union refugees who infected themselves purposely, because they believe in natural immunity over vaccination. It was NOT schoolchildren all over the state spreading infection--it mostly stayed within that community. Therefore, all the hysteria over measles is unnecessary and taking parent's rights is illogical.

Exemptions of conscience and religion are essential to the American Citizen, and removing that right is ethically, morally, and scientifically wrong and unnecessary. It breeds distrust in government, science, and the medical practice as a whole.

It will also cost Oregon schools roughly \$240 MILLION dollars annually, as citizens withdraw their children from the public school system. It will decimate businesses, families, and shut down schools.

Please oppose HB3063. It is reactionary, illogical, and BAD for Oregon!

Thank you for reading, Victoria Mercer Forest Grove, OR 503-618-8591