

From: [Rep Salinas](#)
To: [Ross Danielle](#)
Subject: FW: Opposing HB 3063 to Remove Parental Choice of Vaccines
Date: Wednesday, February 27, 2019 10:36:03 AM

From: Jessica McNaughton <jmcnaughton82@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 27, 2019 8:08 AM
To: Rep Salinas <Rep.AndreaSalinas@oregonlegislature.gov>; Rep Hayden <Rep.CedricHayden@oregonlegislature.gov>; Rep Alonso Leon <Rep.TeresaAlonsoLeon@oregonlegislature.gov>; Rep Boles <Rep.DenycBoles@OregonLegislature.gov>; Rep Drazan <Rep.ChristineDrazan@oregonlegislature.gov>; Rep KenyGuyer <Rep.AliisaKenyGuyer@oregonlegislature.gov>; Rep Mitchell <Rep.TiffanyMitchell@oregonlegislature.gov>; Rep Noble <Rep.RonNoble@oregonlegislature.gov>; Rep Prusak <Rep.RachelPrusak@oregonlegislature.gov>; Rep Greenlick <Rep.MitchGreenlick@oregonlegislature.gov>; Rep Witt <Rep.BradWitt@oregonlegislature.gov>
Subject: Opposing HB 3063 to Remove Parental Choice of Vaccines

I'm writing to oppose HB 3063 and protect a parents right to obtain an exemption for the vaccines they feel are not in the best interest of their children. As I do not have a representative in the House Health Care Committee for my location in Columbia County, I'm sending this to the committee members as well as my local House representative.

I believe medical freedom should be a constitutional right. Just as we have a right to choose our own religion and speak freely without being excluding from societal norms and services such as education, we should not be excluded from society based on our choices about what goes into our or our children's bodies. It seems incomprehensible to me that we could consider our country and our state of Oregon a land of the free and then forcibly inject government mandated medical procedures or face consequences of lost services (paid for by our property taxes!) and exclusion from societal norms. Freedom must include the free choice to determine what goes into our bodies.

With Oregon's current exemption process, all counties still continue to have high rate of vaccination, over 90%! We are not facing a critical situation and hot spots for outbreak. Even given the significant number of recent measles exposure in the Portland area, very, very few Oregonians have contracted measles demonstrating that we are not in a high risk situation.

I strongly believe that any parents who choose to delay or skip any particular vaccine have not made that decision lightly. Most parents who have obtained an exemption for a vaccine have done so with extensive research and education, alongside a significant reason specific to their child's health and wellbeing. Parents know their children best! Parents are caring for their children night and day. They know the distinction between every cry from their child, able to tell if it means they hungry, tired or sick. They are aware more than anyone of the patterns for their child's health and behavior, what makes them sick, which foods or medicines may cause upset stomach, allergies, etc. While medical professionals are an incredibly valuable resources, they cannot ever know the specific needs

of an individual child better than the parent who cares for them 24/7.

For parents who have witnessed a child's reaction to a vaccine, even if mild initially, and feel strongly through educating themselves that additional vaccines of that kind could put their child at risk for more serious injury, the thought of being forced to inject their child with something that could cause life altering damage is terrifying! If my education, research and intuition tells me that something is slowly harming my child, I am not going to continue with it until their breaking point of irreversible damage. If this bill is passed, I fear that medical exemptions will only be obtained once a child has had such a significant injury from a vaccine that irreversible harm has been done rather than receiving a medical exemption preventatively at the first sign of sensitivity, allergy or genetic/hereditary pre-disposition to a reaction.

I urge you to please oppose HB 3063 and maintain Oregon parent's right to make an informed choice on what goes into their children's bodies! If you truly feel these exemptions are too lax, consider instead increasing the education requirements as well as urging our federal government to increase their health and safety monitoring of vaccines.

Thank you,
Jessica McNaughton
Parent in Columbia County, Oregon
503-556-2369
31189 Glenview Rd
Rainier, OR
97048