

Chairperson Salinas and Health Care Committee,

My name is Ruth Martens. I am the mother of a vaccine injured child, a grandmother, and a Registered Nurse.

I am asking you to vote NO on HB 3063.

This bill will directly affect our family.

Our son has a very severe known vaccine injury (encephalopathy) from the DPT in 1986. This injury is believed to be due to the pertussis portion of the DPT vaccine. This happened during the time period when there were so many lawsuits for that vaccine that the government instituted the Vaccine Injury Act. Our pediatrician claimed he did not record the lot number of this vaccine when it was administered. He also argued with us about what happened to our son. I am a nurse. The picture was very clear; it exactly matched the problems seen with this vaccine. Two other doctors agreed with this conclusion in reviewing our son's history. These doctors told us to never vaccinate him again!

However, no one knows for sure which portion of the vaccine caused the damage to our son.

With only medical exemptions for vaccines (which are very strict and our family members don't qualify) our family is caught in the gray area of being forced to vaccinate with a known severe injury in the family!

There is no measles emergency in Oregon. There have only been 5 cases of measles reported in Oregon. One has not yet been verified. Four are related to the Vancouver outbreak, which has so far been isolated to the Ukrainian church fellowship. There have been no cases in children under one or immune compromised individuals and with only one hospitalization and no deaths from this outbreak, so there is no danger to Oregonians.

Oregonians have always valued our freedom and independence. There is no reason to strip our citizens here in Oregon of their bodily autonomy! We have a right to decide what invasive procedures, including injections, are needed for ourselves and our children.

Once again, I am asking you to vote NO on HB 3063.

Ruth A Martens