



House Committee on Health Care  
Re: HB 3063

February 27, 2019

Washington County Public Health would like to submit a letter of support for House Bill 3063 which would eliminate the non-medical exemption from school immunization law.

This change is important to ensure that community immunity levels in Oregon and here in Washington County remain at appropriate levels to protect all individuals from serious diseases like measles and pertussis. This is especially important for those individuals with compromised immune systems and infants who have limited protection and may be unable to receive vaccines.

After careful study, scientists have found that vaccines are safe and found no links between vaccines and other issues such as diabetes or autism. Also over 1,000 research articles found that adverse events related to vaccines are mild and most children experience no side effects at all. Childhood vaccines have reduced, and in some cases fully eliminated diseases that previously caused wide spread disability and death in the U.S.

We know that vaccines save lives and reduce health care costs. This bill would ensure that we continue to protect the health of the community today and into the future.

Sincerely,

Tricia Mortell, RD, MPH  
Washington County Public Health Manager