

My name is Lia Pearson and I am a resident of Salem and a mom of 5 children. I am in opposition of HB3063 and I am begging you to consider the consequences of such a bill:

- ALL children should have the right to an education in Oregon regardless of their private medical decisions. My son, who is a freshman at our local high school, would no longer be allowed to attend his school if HB3063 were to pass. He is an honor roll student who is very involved in the orchestra and choir and loves his school. Even at this well respected highschool (with over a 96% vaccination rate) there are still drug dealers, bullies, harassers, students who smoke or drink on school grounds...not to mention all of the sick kids who come to school passing around the flu, strep throat, mono, etc. All of these students would still be allowed at this school but my healthy, respectful, conscientious son would be stripped of his rights to attend simply for refusing even one vaccine. He is currently 15, the age of medical consent in Oregon, and for ethical and medical reasons he opts out of some vaccines...he should not be punished for the informed decisions made between himself and his doctor. His body, his choice!

- Removing religious exemptions would directly contradict our own constitution. The Oregon constitution article 1 section 3 states "No law shall in any case whatever control the free exercise, and enjoyment of religious [sic] opinions, or interfere with the rights of conscience.—".

- In many many cases this bill will FORCE vaccinations or FORCE parents to quit their jobs with the only two options being to fully vaccinate or homeschool.

- Medical exemptions are very difficult to obtain in Oregon, even for children who should have them per CDC recommendations. My 13 year old has an autoimmune disease and my 9 year old has a seizure disorder...neither should be vaccinated according to their doctor as well as CDC recommendations. They STILL do not qualify for medical exemptions here in Oregon.

In conclusion, I would like to remind you that vaccination rates remain high in Oregon and there are no outbreaks of measles within schools. There is no emergency. You have time to think this through and do what is right for the children of Oregon.

thank you for your time,
Lia Pearson