

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to voice a strong opposition to the Bill HB 3063 introducing mandatory vaccinations. I hope that you will support the people of Oregon who care about our freedom in this area.

First and foremost, to force a vaccination on anyone, is violating Americans' rights and freedom. Most laws are to prohibit dangerous activity. This law invades a person's very body, by forcing injections of multiple kinds into the *children* of our nation. If we force one medical intervention, what is to stop the government from forcing more and more medical interventions regardless of the individuals' rights and desires?

On the argument that the bill is to protect society:

If there is going to be action to make a law that forces Americans to do something that reduces our freedom, there should be OBVIOUS, HUGE benefits to those around. Those who are at risk of death by a disease that we have a vaccination for are of a very small percentage. The chances of that disease spreading from an unvaccinated person to an at-risk person is an even smaller percentage of risk.

Counterbalancing this, there is a clearly documented risk of children being permanently injured, damaged, and even killed from reactions to vaccinations. It is a small percentage, but it is NOT 0%. The risk of a life-long injury or death to our precious children is one completely worth weighing with the risk of getting a disease or passing a disease to an at-risk individual. NEITHER ROUTE IS WITHOUT RISK. **Therefore, there should not be a carte blanche decision made by the government for every person, but the decision should be uniquely made by the guardian of each individual child.** They can carefully weigh the risks on either side and make the best decision according to the child's individual needs.

One more point about the philosophy of herd immunity and the need to force this in order to protect all society: It is idealistic but unrealistic to ask any individual to make SURE they do not accidentally ever hurt anyone else. As much as I want to protect every person fully, I am aware that I am limited and cannot absolutely ensure this. *For example, if we really believed we should NEVER risk hurting anyone else, we would NEVER drive a vehicle again.* Auto accidents have a very high level of individuals hurting other individuals on accident. But the reality is, whoever steps in a car is willing to take the risk that comes with it because of its benefits. *Again, the individual should be responsible to make the decision about vaccinations just the same as the individual decides whether to risk driving a car.*

Thank you for listening to my concerns. I am not alone in my convictions. I hope you will stand against this threat to Americans' freedom. I do not say that lightly. **For the individual to carry such freedom and such responsibility is a privilege and burden that many died for, and this Bill is a direct seizing of power from individuals to put into the hands of government.** Please take a stand for what our country was founded on and has always stood for!

Sincerely,

Melissa Mellinger