

From: [Svetlana Kostel](#)
To: [HHC Exhibits](#)
Subject: Testimony against HB 3064
Date: Thursday, February 28, 2019 11:41:56 AM

Hello, my name is Svetlana Kostel and I am writing to oppose hill HB 3064, which would remove personal belief and religious exemptions to vaccination for all Oregon school children. I am unable to attend today's hearing in Salem as my son is not feeling well and I need to stay home with him. Otherwise, I would have driven to Salem to testify against this bill.

I live with my 17 month old son in Beaverton, Oregon. It is my obligation as a mother to raise my child healthy and to provide him education opportunities. With this bill HB 3064, my right to give my son education will be taken away. I will be forced to choose between education and vaccination, which is not only not a fair choice, but it is also not ethical.

The Oregon vaccination rate is approximately 94-95% for the 7 vaccines surveyed by the CDC. The existing philosophical and religious exemptions are not harming the overall vaccination rates.

Religious liberty is a fundamental right, and individuals' choices about what to put into their bodies – or their children's bodies – should be respected by the state.

Parents need to be able to make informed choices about their children's care based on their specific situation, not forced to choose between educating and vaccinating their child.

I urge the Committee to oppose HB 3063.

Thank you
Sincerely yours
Svetlana Kostel
Concerned mother, US citizen and resident of Oregon