

DATE: February 28, 2019

TO: Oregon State Legislature, Senate Committee on Health Care

Re: Support for HB 3063

Honorable Chair and Committee Members,

I am a medical student in Portland, Oregon, planning to specialize in Pediatrics. I am also currently working on my Master's degree in Public Health. I strongly urge you to support House Bill 3063. We all share a common goal: to keep children safe and healthy. However, the fear surrounding vaccines is rooted in debunked pseudoscience and fiction. Vaccines are effective and safe.

As a future Pediatrician, I hope to never have to witness the potentially horrific outcomes of preventable diseases. Non-medical vaccine exemptions threaten this. By vaccinating healthy children, we are protecting the medically-vulnerable (infants who cannot yet receive vaccines and those with medical concerns preventing vaccinations).

I have friends with young infants who are scared to take their children out in public during the current Measles outbreak in Washington and Oregon in fear of exposing them to the Measles virus. People should not have to fear going to public places due to the misled decisions of a small group of parents. Non-medical vaccine exemptions allow misinformed parents to make a decision for not only their child, but for all children.

Vaccines are safe and effective. Please support HB 3063.

Thank you,

Kylie Loutit