

Public Testimony Submission for HB 3063

Vaccine hesitancy needs to be addressed head-on. We need to hear why people are concerned, and address those concerns.

Minimizing the concerns does not address them.
Removing exemptions does not address them.

In fact, removing exemptions creates another public health concern: Disparate treatment of children based on socioeconomic factors. Every child deserves the right to public education. Not every family can homeschool - that is a choice only available to those who are able to have a parent stay home to provide such education. It is also unclear that online schools wouldn't also be impacted by this bill.

If the goal is to increase herd immunity - a goal many of us share - this can be achieved through other means. One example would include public education encouraging adults to voluntarily get their titers checked, and boosted if needed. Many adults who think they are vaccinated are no longer immune.

We don't need to choose between ethics and good public health policies. We can have both.

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