

Hello, I am writing to tell you that I oppose HB 3063, the bill to end all non-medical vaccine exemptions for Oregon schoolchildren.

I believe parents should retain their rights to refuse vaccinations without being coerced into making a decision that they are against. Why hold education hostage in trade for a medical practice that isn't approved by 100% of the public.

Only 2.7% of Oregon schoolchildren currently hold a philosophical or religious exemption, meaning that scientifically we already have achieved herd immunity to disease. Therefore, there's no reason to take away parental rights to those using non-medical exemptions. There are many reasons parents use those exemptions. Perhaps their child has had a reaction to a vaccination that doesn't qualify for a medical exemption, and so they choose to no longer use that vaccine, even if they use others. Perhaps they are using a spaced out or reduced schedule. They may be a member of a religion (such a Jehovah's Witness), which is morally opposed to the use of vaccination. Aside from the obvious religious exemptions, there is the fact that it is unconstitutional to inject a child with a product, knowing their parents are only agreeing to it to fulfill an oppressive mandate to access education, especially with a product whose manufacturers are shielded from liability.

Please say no to HB3063 and keep children's health a decision between parents and a doctor and NOT the state of Oregon or pharmaceutical companies.

Sara Duncan
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