

I believe in science. Vaccines are effective, and vaccines save lives. I will have my child vaccinated against anything that is an actual threat to his health, as soon as is possible. That said, I don't think that forcing parents to follow the CDC schedule to attend school is the answer to the concerns that have brought this bill into existence.

A number of vaccines have a heavy metal adjuvant in them. In susceptible populations, this toxin load can cause adverse reactions because bodies cannot process and release toxins properly. I am not vaccinating according to the CDC recommended schedule because I *know* my child has a little tested for mutation of his MTHFR gene, which affects 30-50% of the population. Among others, the National Institute of Health has found in its studies of adverse vaccine reactions that a MTHFR mutation is a common thread in those who suffer injuries. (<https://academic.oup.com/jid/article/198/1/16/841083>; <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2843136/>) Yes, adverse reactions are rare. Not everyone with a MTHFR mutation has a severe adverse reaction to a vaccine. Am I willing to risk an adverse reaction in my child, who studies are showing is at highest risk of injury, by following the CDC schedule? No. He's getting shots one at a time, and some later than recommended.

I implore you to look into the statistics about how many kids have a medical exemption for vaccinations, and which shots parents are avoiding. The vast majority of children are not fully unvaccinated, but their parents have elected to delay or skip just one or two vaccinations. Investigate what the common thread is. Some might just be for vaccinations regarded as superfluous. For example, I see no valid reason to give my child the aluminum containing Hep B shots. It's a sexually transmitted disease, one which I and my family don't have. Studies show the recommended Hep B vaccinations starting at birth wear off by age 11-12, before most children would be sexually active on their own. Even with all the focus on measles locally and the MMR shot in general, the Oregon Health Authority just released figures showing all counties in Oregon have MMR vaccination rates well above 90%. I would think this would be cause for celebration, not new mandates.

Please also look more closely into who has been affected by the Clark Co measles outbreak. Though it's not being reported, I do believe you will find that the outbreak has been within one particular community with their own views on vaccination and attitudes about isolation if potentially ill. The larger communities in Washington and Oregon are statistically well vaccinated.

It's not just fearmongers and uneducated people who have reasons for not wanting to follow the CDC schedule. I understand where this knee jerk reaction is coming from, but everything is not black and white. Please don't paint your guidelines with an overly broad brush. Nothing will ever protect 100% of people 100% of the time. Generalizing public health needs in our law has so much potential to harm children and families with unintended consequences. We need well educated kids, not isolation into the fringes.

Thank you for your time and consideration,
Jennifer Driskill
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