

My name is Sierra Carey and I am writing today to express my passionate opposition to HB 3063. I am from Pendleton, OR but am currently living in Portland, OR where I attend medical school. I am the oldest of five children. My oldest two siblings and I were only vaccinated a handful of times, and my youngest two sisters were only vaccinated once. They are currently in middle school and my mother uses the personal belief exemption for them. The passage of this bill into law would impact my family deeply. My mother would be forced to either homeschool my sisters or move out of the state. Either would be an enormous burden on my family and myself. My mother works nightshift as a nurse, and if this bill were to pass, I would likely have to temporarily drop out of school to homeschool my sisters until other arrangements could be made.

I oppose this bill for a multitude of reasons, some of which I will lay out here.

First, the rate of children with nonmedical exemptions in Oregon is not at 7.5% like some say. That rate refers to kindergarteners with exemptions to one or more vaccines. Oregon's true nonmedical exemption rate for children in grades K-12 is 5.2%. The percentage of completely unvaccinated children in Oregon is only 2.6%. Additionally, the vaccination rates for all required school vaccines are at or above 95% for each individual one. These numbers all come from the Oregon Health Authority.

There has been a lot of fear surrounding the measles cases in Washington that I believe has contributed to the rush for this bill to be introduced. However, per CDC data, the vaccination rates for the MMR in Oregon have remained steady at least since 1995. The current percentage of MMR coverage is 95.6% for Oregonians in grades K-12.

Continuing the topic of measles, many people are not aware of the CDC whistleblower Dr. William Thompson. Dr. Thompson, a top scientist still employed by the CDC, came forward in 2014 and admitted that he and a research team of CDC employees committed scientific fraud. Specifically, the team manipulated their data to cover up the fact that they found a significantly increased rate of autism in African American boys who were given the MMR before three years of age when compared to those given the vaccine after 3 years of age.

Another facet of my opposition is with regards to the safety testing of vaccines. Frankly, scientific studies do not exist. The studies done to evaluate the safety of vaccines before their widespread use do not use inert saline placebo controls. Anyone who knows anything about scientific research knows that you cannot pass judgement on the safety of a vaccine when you are not comparing that vaccine to an inert saline placebo. Instead, new vaccines are compared to other vaccines, several vaccines given simultaneously, or the contents of a vaccine with only the antigen removed. This is not science. This is not acceptable.

Vaccines can and do injure people, adults and children alike, and there is growing scientific evidence to support that. But for now, let's focus on the numbers. Over the last 30 years or so, since the implementation of the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program, the US government has paid out over \$4 billion dollars in compensation for vaccine injuries. 4 BILLION!!!! Now ask yourself, "Did I know that?" and then ask yourself how that makes you feel.

The Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS) is a database where you can submit vaccine injuries that occur to you or your children. In fact, doctors are required to submit reports if they encounter a child who may have been injured by vaccines. The problem is that most doctors are not aware of the adverse events that can follow vaccination. They are not aware of the serious side effects written on the inserts included with the vaccines that they administer to their patients. According to our government, perhaps only 1% of adverse events following vaccination are reported to VAERS. Take a moment for that to sink in. I will provide an example to illustrate my point. Over the past 30 or so years, about 450 deaths following measles vaccines have been reported to the VAERS system. If you apply the 1% statistic that the HHS themselves reported and which I mentioned a few lines ago, that would mean that in the last 30 years 45,000 people have died as a result of measles vaccination. In the meantime, since 2000, only 3 people in the United States have died from measles itself. I beg you to ask yourself if that seems like a far tradeoff.

Another angle from I oppose this is from the position of religious freedom. Taking away the religious exemption for parents who do not want to vaccinate their children is fundamentally wrong in a country that was built from a desire for freedom from religious persecution.

One of the last points I will make has to do with the Nuremburg Code, which was created in the aftermath of WWII once the world had uncovered the horrific evils of medical experiments done in Nazi Germany. The Nuremburg Code states that informed consent is essential and that that consent cannot be gained via coercion. We do not have informed consent in the United States when it comes to vaccines. Parents are not given data from both sides of the situation. They are not told about Whistleblowers like Dr. Thompson or about the lack of safety studies for the vaccines that they are about to give their child. Moreover, threatening to take away a child's right to education does not lead to consent freely given. It backs parents into a corner and forces them to either homeschool their children or flee from the state. We have seen this in California since the passage of SB 277. If Oregon were to pass this law, they would be violating the Nuremburg Code and the principle of informed consent. The right to choose what goes into your body is one of the most sacred and basic rights that a person has. Any government that takes that away is no longer one of democracy and freedom. A government that does that is nothing short of tyrannical.

Oregon is my home, and I love it dearly. But I know that my family and other intelligent, informed family like it will never submit to this bill if it passes. We will flee the state or homeschool our children. Passing it may increase vaccination rates slightly, if at all. The majority of people who choose not to vaccinate their children will not start doing it just because the state says so. They have reasons for exempting their children, reasons that will not change with the passage of a law.

As I hope I have eluded to in this letter, vaccines have not been proven to be safe and they can cause serious harm, lasting disability, and even death. A product that carries this kind of risk, while lacking true scientific data to back it up should not be forced upon the people of Oregon. I implore you to do your own research into the "other side" of vaccines. If you did not already know the facts that I laid out in this letter, please look into them yourself. The vaccine

program has many problems, but none of them have to do with the rates of unvaccinated children. I beg you to do your own research and oppose this bill. My family and I are counting on you to preserve our freedom and right to informed consent.

Sincerely,

Sierra Carey