

To the Legislature:

I'm writing to voice my opposition to HB-3063.

I am a mother of a vaccine-injured child due to the MMR. My daughter has epilepsy and having this horrific neurological disease is not something I take lightly or is easy on her or our family to live with. My daughter is now an adult, attending college and working, although still relies on others for transportation, she cannot live alone (ever) as she is so affected by her seizures, which all could have been eliminated. I have a son who is currently attending high school and is fully unvaccinated and this is my right as his mother to decide what is in his best interest. This is not the legislature or any judges' right to make this decision. This is not a one-size fits all decision.

While this bill has good intentions of protecting our kids, I fear that important information has been left out in its consideration. The expression that vaccines are "safe and effective" fails to acknowledge that vaccines are the only medical product that are not held to the same safety standards as all other medical devices and products. There have not been double-blind placebo-controlled studies on vaccines, nor has the development of this product advanced enough to look at the long-term effects the current CDC recommended schedule has on the health of our children and the role genetics and immunobiology play in their safety.

Today's children are the sickest generation this country has seen and my son attends high school with some of them. We see the adverse effects these vaccines have on them. My son is one of the healthiest kids and has not had any issues with his health. I am not worried about him getting the chicken pox or measles. I am, on the other hand worried, if forced to vaccinate him that given the same DNA as my daughter he too will develop a neurological disease or worse.

Asthma, food allergies, autism, epilepsy, learning disabilities, developmental delays, sensory processing disorders, and autoimmune conditions are all on the rise. I am concerned that it is no coincidence that our children's health has declined as the number of recommended vaccines has increased. We require four-fold more vaccines than when I was a child. The science must look at how all these factors interplay. I have seen firsthand that vaccines can cause injury. Please do not forget that my daughter has been injured.

When I am told that the pharmaceutical companies cannot be held liable for these injuries. Where is the justice in that? Making tax payers pay billions of dollars for those injuries is not right.

Perhaps most importantly, we must acknowledge that government is overstepping its boundaries here and interjecting itself into the private relationship of a doctor and their patient. Knowing a patient's full medical, family and social history puts the doctor in the best position to determine how to care for their patient.

Furthermore, this bill (HB-3063) is discriminatory and deprives children of their right to an education. If my son doesn't get to attend his public high school he is being deprived of his education and furthermore will no longer have the ability to play high school sports. I am very educated and it did not come easy or without a lot of research and I am extremely convicted in my decision on not to vaccinate my son.

I will not change my mind if this bill becomes law and take my son to the doctor to get "up to date" on shots.

I encourage you to focus your desire to protect kids in a different manner: demand true vaccination safety studies, make manufacturers liable, and take big pharma lobbyists out of the government.

Thank you for your time. Rae Lynne Stewart