

**From:** [Shon West](#)  
**Subject:** HB 3063  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 27, 2019 6:07:20 PM

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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 have several objections to this bill. I will try to go over some of them below. My main problem is that vaccines do not all provide the same level of safety or risk. Medically speaking there is no data to suggest that the benefits from all vaccines are equal. Therefore treating all vaccines as equally important goes against the scientific standards. With ever increasing mandatory vaccines being added for less and less dangerous diseases, we have strayed away from the urgency that initially drove vaccine policies. While I understand recent outbreaks, have shaking the public, most often spurred by constant media attention, we should be more reserved when making decisions that erode freedoms. They are easy to take away, and hard to gain back. Consider some of the following points.

Only 2.7% of Oregon schoolchildren currently hold a philosophical or religious exemption, meaning that scientifically we already have high community immunity to disease. Therefore, there's no reason to take away parental rights to those using non-medical exemptions.

A few things to consider is how will you enforce these laws. Prohibiting children from school, unfairly hurts the child. Should you enact fines, or criminal charges, then you face the issue of removing a child from their parents. Which not only ends up being costly, but can have an even more dramatic affect on the child. Thus your attempts at protecting them end up harming them more. As stated above, not all vaccines offer the same level protection or benefit. They are not all the same risk. This information is readily available on the CDC website. Concerns about measles, shouldn't dictate mandatory vaccines on every single vaccine. You should also really consider that, many of the places where there are higher exemptions would simply potentially remove their children from schools. This means that there is little benefit to the general public as they will share public space. Thank you for reading,