To the Legislature:

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

I understand that the intention of the bill is to preserve the health and safety of our children; however there are inherent risks in the vaccines currently available, and this bill would remove the parents' rights to make decisions based on what they believe is safe and in the best interests of their children.

I am in favor of vaccines for our children that would be truly safe, however the vaccines currently being used have *not* been proven to be safe. 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 have there been studies on the long-term effects of vaccines given on the current CDC recommended schedule.

My family has an extensive history of autoimmune disease, and the toxins in vaccines are a known trigger for this. Knowing that my children already have genetic predisposition to autoimmune disease, it is not in their best interest to receive all required vaccines. This bill prevents me from making the decision I feel is best for my children's health.

It is known that vaccine injury **does** occur, as evidenced by the fact that the Vaccine Injury Compensation Program has paid roughly \$4 billion in damages, despite how difficult it is to receive that compensation. Additionally, the pharmaceutical companies are not held liable so this is funded with taxpayer dollars. No other industry is exempt from litigation when clients are injured through the use of their product

With all other medical treatment, patients are given the information to evaluate the risks and benefits for themselves and make their own decisions. By the government requiring children receive all vaccines to be able to attend school, they are denying parents and children a fundamental right.

A one-size-fits-all approach to medicine is not in the best interest of the country. It is not the government's place to make medical decisions for its citizens. These decisions should be between the patients, parents, and doctors.

As a parent, my first priority for my children is their health and physical well-being. My second priority is ensuring they are well-educated and prepared for the their future as productive citizens. This bill would force me to make a decision between those priorities and ultimately would prevent my children from receiving the education they should be entitled to.

Most parents who do not vaccinate their children or who vaccinate on an alternative schedule have done extensive research on this topic and are well-educated. Our viewpoint is supported by the Association of American Physicians and Surgeons. I ask that you please read their Statement on Federal Vaccine Mandates. While HB-3063 is not a federal mandate, I believe the points made in this statement apply equally to state mandates.

Most of the parents opposing HB-3063 would *love* to have access to vaccines that have been proven to be safe for their children. They are not opposed to vaccines. They are opposed to vaccines that have very serious risks. The true solution here is to demand vaccine

manufacturers comply with the same required safety studies other drug manufacturers are required to follow and to hold the manufacturers liable for any vaccine injuries.

Please preserve our freedom and rights as parents.

Best regards,

Kaellagh Bennett