

March 1, 2019

To Oregon Senators and Representatives:

I am writing to tell you that **I oppose HB 3063**, the bill that removes the ability of a parent to decline required immunizations on behalf of a child for reason other than child's indicated medical diagnosis (<https://olis.leg.state.or.us/liz/2019R1/Measures/Overview/HB3063>).

I am a mother and an Oregon resident. This is very important to me because this bill takes away our **medical freedom** as Oregon residents to choose what vaccinations we want our school age children to receive. I believe parents should retain their rights and medical freedom without being coerced.

It also takes away the **freedom for everyone to receive education** in our state regardless of philosophical or religious views. This is outright DISCRIMINATORY towards parents and children in the state of Oregon who have religious or philosophical views that oppose some or all vaccines.

**Here are facts to consider:**

- The [AAPS](https://aapsonline.org/measles-outbreak-and-federal-vaccine-mandates/) (Association of American Physicians and Surgeons) released an article on February 26, 2019 also opposing state and federal mandated vaccines:  
*The Association of American Physicians and Surgeons (AAPS) strongly opposes federal interference in medical decisions, including mandated vaccines. After being fully informed of the risks and benefits of a medical procedure, patients have the right to reject or accept that procedure. The regulation of medical practice is a state function, not a federal one. **Governmental preemption of patients' or parents' decisions about accepting drugs or other medical interventions is a serious intrusion into individual liberty, autonomy, and parental decisions about child-rearing*** (<https://aapsonline.org/measles-outbreak-and-federal-vaccine-mandates/>).
- The American Medical Association, in section [9.133 Routine Universal Immunization of Physicians](#) of the AMA Code of Ethics, **affirm the right to both religious and philosophical exceptions** for themselves to decline vaccination (<https://journalofethics.ama-assn.org/article/ama-code-medical-ethics-opinion-physicians-responsibility-be-vaccinated/2012-01>).
- According to the Centers for Disease Control, [this year's measles outbreak nationwide so far is only 159 cases but 2011 saw 220 cases, 2014 had 667 and last year there were 372 reported cases](https://www.cdc.gov/measles/cases-outbreaks.html) (<https://www.cdc.gov/measles/cases-outbreaks.html>). **THERE IS NO EMERGENCY.**

- According to the Oregon Health Authority, [95.8% of students in K-12 in Oregon have received 2 doses of MMR Vaccine](https://www.oregon.gov/oha/PH/PREVENTIONWELLNESS/VACCINES/IMMUNIZATION/GETTINGIMMUNIZED/Documents/SchMeaslesRates.pdf) (<https://www.oregon.gov/oha/PH/PREVENTIONWELLNESS/VACCINES/IMMUNIZATION/GETTINGIMMUNIZED/Documents/SchMeaslesRates.pdf>).

Please consider how this would affect children in Oregon who would be isolated from receiving public and private education.

Please consider how this would affect parents and pediatricians to freely make informed decisions about vaccines.

**Please stand with me for medical and educational freedom in the state of Oregon by opposing HB 3063.**

A concerned Oregon Resident,  
*Charissa Hatten*  
*Redmond, Oregon*