

Heidi Hege

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03/10/2019

Representatives

State of Oregon
900 Court St NE,
Salem, OR 97301

Dear District Representatives:

I am writing to express my opposition to HB 3063 and to make recommendations for amendments to the bill if it is to proceed out of the House Committee on Health Care. I realize you have probably received hundreds or thousands of letters regarding this bill so I will keep my points succinct to the ideas that I believe are the most critical.

First and foremost, the reasons I believe this bill should never make it out of the House Committee on Health Care are the following:

I) With a statewide vaccination rate of 94%, **Oregon is already well above the national average** and this bill is simply unnecessary.

II) HB 3063 would enact an infringement on our freedom of choice regarding medical procedures. **Where there is risk of harm, it is imperative that there be choice.**

III) There is **no accountability for manufacturers** who are currently immune to tort claims for adverse reactions from the 1986 National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act. And mandated vaccines would simply pour money into their pockets as they continue to add more vaccines to the recommended schedule. When is enough, enough?

IV) **Current medical exemptions are already too strict** and not accommodating to those with a family medical history that would lend itself to potential adverse reactions. So, they are asking us to do a science experiment on our children.

V) This will create **undue administrative and fiscal burden** on the health department and schools to document and track an ever-increasing CDC schedule of vaccines for every child. This will also increase the administrative burden for those responsible for educating the requirements of the schedule.

If the bill makes it out of the House Committee on Health care, the **primary amendments that would need to be made to make this bill reasonable** are the following:

I) Provisions for a delayed vaccination schedule based off of doctor's recommendations must be allowed including optional single dose vaccinations. The CDC provides a recommended schedule but it should stay just that, a recommendation only, NOT a mandate.

II) Provision for naturopaths to sign off on medical exemptions and set a delayed vaccination schedule. Naturopaths have thus far been excluded from the ability to sign off on medical exemptions.

III) Remove the restriction on online school student's attendance and participation in online education from the bill. This is absurd and flies in the face of our children's rights to an education. You cannot pass disease over the internet, via email or over the phone, are the sponsors of this bill kidding?

IV) The CDC schedule is only a recommendation, so for school safety, only casual contact communicable diseases should be required vaccinations from the CDC schedule. Not the entire schedule of 69 doses and they continue to add to it.

V) Private schools, home schools and online schools should be exempt from this bill. Private schools are not owned by the State.

VI) Remove the amendment that would publish information about minors medical histories to the public and disseminate data that would be a potential HIPPA violation. This public posting and communication to parents about non-vaccinated students has a haunting discriminatory feeling that must be excluded from this bill.

Thank you for listening to my concerns and considering the negative impact this bill would have in so many ways. **Please vote no on HB 3063!!!**

Sincerely,

Heidi Hege