

Dear Members of the House Health Care Committee,

I'm writing you today in regards to HB 3063. I urge you to oppose this bill. I live in Albany, Oregon and though I might not be your constituent, it is important to remember this bill will impact ALL of Oregon's children. I would like to introduce you to mine.



This is my daughter, Colleen. She is 17 and a senior. She started her first job this year flipping burgers at Burger King. She is counting down the days until graduation and looking forward to more freedom and independence. After graduation, she plans to attend our local community college and then transfer to a four year university. She loves music and has attended about a dozen different concerts. She is also a wonderful artist and attended a special art camp at OSU last summer where she got to stay in the dorms for a week and put on an art exhibit. She would like to be a Veterinarian. She has had every vaccine on the schedule except for one, a fifth round of DTaP.

If HB 3063 passes, she will lose her right to a public education and because of the false "emergency" attached to this bill, she won't be able to graduate with her friends or attend all of the senior events she has earned and is so looking forward to (prom, senior night, graduation). Instead, after nearly 12 years of hard work and studying, she will have to drop out of school and get a GED.



This is my son, Gavin. He is almost 15, a freshman, and already taller than his dad standing at a lofty 6'2". He was "so over middle school" and very excited to begin his high school career and is looking forward to getting his driver's permit in May. He has been an extrovert and extremely social since the day he was born. He's my only child that attended preschool because his need to be around other people was so great. He started with two mornings a week which quickly changed to five mornings! My mom nicknamed him Mr. Smiley Guy because he is never without a smile and he is friends with everyone he meets. Like his sister, he has had all of his "required" vaccines except for one, the fifth DTaP.

If HB 3063 passes, he will lose his right to a public education. He knows about this bill and broke down and cried when I told him that this bill would require him to be home schooled.



This is my daughter, Moira. She is six years old and in Kindergarten this year. Her birthday is in December, so she had to wait an extra year to start school which was torture for her because she was so excited and ready! She loves her teacher and every weekend she is sad that there is no school and wonders what her teacher and her two cats are doing. They are learning about shadows, and the clothing of different cultures. Yesterday she told me she wanted to get a "sarong" for our visit to the coast this summer. There is a new school being built that will open sometime next year and she can't wait to go there, and is also looking forward to the day that she can go to the same middle school her big brother and sister went, where she has attended many ceremonies and concerts over the years. She insists we go to every event the school puts on and loved Science Night in January and the PTO carnival this past weekend. She is vaccine-free.

If HB 3063 passes, she will lose her right to a public education. I have not had the heart to tell her yet how this will affect her as I want her to be able to enjoy every day she has left in her school with the same joy and enthusiasm she has now.



This little sweetie is my fourth and final child. She is Marin and is two. She is mischievous and silly. She loves to walk with her big sissy to and from the bus every morning. She is constantly singing and making up silly songs and is a little dare devil. She keeps us on our toes! She is vaccine-free.

If HB 3603 passes, she will lose her right to a public education before it has even begun and will no longer be allowed to attend day care.

As you can see, like most people that are called "anti-vaxxers", I was once a "pro-vaxxer". However, after my two oldest children each experienced a separate adverse reaction to their last round of vaccinations, I began to do my own due diligence and started researching instead of just blindly trusting what I was being told to do in regards to vaccines. Against my better judgement, I allowed myself to be bullied into a Tdap booster 8 years ago that made my entire arm swell and caused me extreme upper arm and shoulder pain for many years and resulted in permanent reduction in my range of motion in that arm. My husband and I made the educated and informed decision at that point to stop vaccinating our oldest two and to not vaccinate the two children we had after that.

We do our part to protect "the herd" by keeping our children and ourselves home when we are ill. And by practicing and teaching our children the importance of proper hand washing and how to cough or

sneeze without spreading germs. The handful of cases of measles our state sees every year is not what the immune compromised have to fear. It's the tens of thousands of kids that are sent to school sick every day because their parents can't afford to stay home with them until they are no longer contagious with a cold, stomach bug, hand foot and mouth, etc. Or the parents that take their sick kids out to stores, restaurants, on vacations, etc., because they can't be bothered to inconvenience themselves to cancel plans due to illness. Or the tens of thousands of people who go to work, or the store when they themselves are sick.

I have lost so much sleep over this proposed bill and what it would mean for our family. Since home school is not an option for our family, we would have no choice but to sell our home and move our kids from the only place they've known, the schools they love and the friends they've grown up with, to a different state that values education, individual freedom, religious freedom, medical freedom, and parental rights.

"Unless we put Medical Freedom into the Constitution, the time will come when medicine will organize into an undercover dictatorship...to restrict the art of healing to one class of men, and deny equal privilege to others, will be to constitute the Bastille of Medical Science. All such laws are un-American and despotic and have no place in a Republic.... The Constitution of this Republic should make special privilege for Medical Freedom as well as Religious Freedom."
Benjamin Rush, MD signer of the Declaration of Independence

"Those who would give up essential Liberty, to purchase a little temporary Safety, deserve neither Liberty nor Safety." Benjamin Franklin

Thank you for your time in reading this email. I respectfully ask that you do not support HB 3063.

Marnie Teston
Albany, Oregon