

HB 3063 Testimony

-Hannah

From: Laura Adams <lmkellas@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, March 1, 2019 9:01 AM
To: Rep Salinas <Rep.AndreaSalinas@oregonlegislature.gov>
Subject: Oppose HB 3063

Good morning,

I oppose HB 3063. I attended the hearing yesterday and appreciated hearing the discussion on both sides. It hasn't swayed my opposition. I firmly believe this takes the decisions away from the parents.

Two items I noted during the testimony:

1. The 7.5% exemption rate is very misleading. This includes children who are both 100% unvaccinated AND children who have been immunized, but are not fully immunized. This could mean that the child has received 20 of 23 doses, but have an exemption. They could be on a delayed schedule or just don't want the child to have one vaccine. The true 100% unimmunized rate in Oregon is 2.6%. This equates to about 15,000 children in total.
2. The testimony by Paul Cieslak, from the Oregon Health Authority had contradicting information. I read through the materials he provide in the testimony. The information he provided shows that the immunization rate in Oregon is HIGH.
 - a. On slide number 7 of his exhibits, it shows that "overall, 96% of K-12 students are vaccinated against measles."
 - b. On slide 8, it shows that the median vaccination rate in Oregon is 94%.
 - c. Slide 9 isn't correct, as the methodology changed (see point number 1 above). On Slide 9, it shows 5.2% of students have non-medical exemptions, yet half of this HAVE HAD vaccines (see point 1 above).
 - d. On slide 12 regarding herd immunity, Mr. Cieslak lists that measles needs to be between 92-94%. According to slide 7, 96% of students are immunized against measles, hence meeting the herd immunity threshold for our students.
 - e. On the slide regarding (Reportable) Vaccine preventable diseases (slide 19) – you can clearly see, even with a high immunization rate, there are cases that are reported year over year. However, this slide clearly shows that the cases is very consistent year over year. This clearly shows that there is no need to panic or state an emergency, that this is normal for Oregon, who has a high immunization rate (see a above).

If this bill is passed, it will backfire. Parents will not be forced into forcing medicine on their kids. There are so many reasons why the 15,000 children throughout the state are not immunized. Genetic components are a large part, as are adverse reactions, which are real and not as rare as reported.

Please vote no and keep the non-medical exemptions for Oregon. The data clearly shows Oregon does not have a low immunization rate. There is no emergency.

Laura Adams

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