

Dear Rep Brad Witt, Senator Betsy Johnson, Bill Sponsors, and House Health Committee,

I am writing to you in opposition of HB3063.

The vaccination debate is a polarizing one, pitting those who follow the vaccination schedule against “anti-vaxxers.” **What about those of us in the middle, who take the time to research pros and cons, consult with our physicians, and make informed decisions to delay/spread out the vaccination schedule?**

My two children, currently ages 11 and 13, are fully vaccinated today – but we took some time getting to this point, in consultation with our pediatrician to ensure we weren’t flooding infant bodies with potentially harmful chemicals.

As an example, take the HepB vaccine, which is recommended to be given to babies at 2 months of age. Hepatitis B is a disease that is commonly acquired via sexual transmission or dirty needles. I don’t argue that this is a terrible disease and that vaccinations are of significant benefit, I just don’t think it’s urgent to dose a low-risk newborn with the formaldehyde and aluminum that come along with this particular vaccination. We chose to wait until they were ten years old.

Even without additional legislation, it is very onerous for people like me who decide to delay or customize the vaccination schedule. There’s a lot of paperwork and explaining to do, with daycare providers, school administrators, etc. ...not to mention shaming from the general population who see this as a black-or-white issue. Believe me, it would have been so much easier to just follow the schedule! But I’m a highly conscientious parent who makes these decisions with intent and after careful consideration – and with my children’s health and safety the number one priority.

-All health care decisions for me and my child should be between me and our doctor- not mandated by the State.

-I have deep concerns about a mandate to put anything in my body or my child’s body where there is no direct accountability/liability for injury by the manufacturer or the doctor administering it.

-When the government MANDATES what goes into our body this is infringing on my personal freedom.

-Oregon has high vaccination rates already.

-Why are we mandating a product that includes ingredients that are specifically named as harmful in the 2015 Toxic Free Kids act, including Formaldehyde which is on the list of High Priority Chemicals of Concern?

Thank you for protecting my ability to make informed decisions about this important public health topic.

Sincerely,

Monique Kellerman  
Forest Grove, OR