

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am pro-choice and I vote.

I am writing to you today in opposition of House Bill 3063. I am a parent of two boys who are vaccinated but were done so on a delayed schedule. I did this because I suffer from an severe autoimmune disease and I did not want to risk causing changes to their immune system that would further predispose them to developing one as well. We modified the schedule along with our pediatricians support and have now nearly caught up. I am in support of the use of vaccines in general. I know that they are important for personal and public health and to protect those who are not able to be vaccinated. However, it is unfair prioritize the health of those who are not able to be vaccinated over those who may develop health issues resulting from vaccinating when their immune systems are not ready. I do not want my children to have to receive vaccines such as Hep B or HPV before they are of reproductive age.

In a climate where we are getting closer to losing our right to make personal decisions about reproductive rights, I see this issue as no different. It is our bodies, and our choice. Yes, communicable diseases are different than pregnancy, but to mandate vaccines feels authoritarian and is inappropriate in our good state of Oregon.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Alicia Bigelow