

While I still stand opposed to 3063 as the mother of two children with a genetic disorder which prevents them from being able to get some of the vaccines on the schedule (we are not anti-vax. We gave our children all the vaccines that are safe for kids with their diagnosis), I would like to suggest the following amendments be considered:

- a grandfathering period. Students already enrolled in a school should be permitted to finish attending at that school. This will protect high school kids from being booted during the critical final four years of their K-12 education. This will also give families interested in getting caught up on vaccines enough time to do it safely.
- students who have medical reasons they cannot be vaccinated but who do not qualify for an OHA exemption should be allowed to attend school still.
- students who have religious reasons they cannot receive some or all vaccines should be allowed to attend school still.
- remove the “declares emergency” status. Emergency status hurts educational budgets. Schools have already hired staff for the 2018-2019 school year based on enrollment-based income projections. Forcibly disenrolling students mid year hurts the students left in school.
- limit required vaccines to illnesses easily shared in crowds. Tetanus, HPV, and Hepatitis B for example are not diseases which can develop herd immunity and which kids cannot catch from each other while engaging in safe behavior at school.
- Students requiring special education services from the state especially IEP, 504 and TAG students should be exempted from the rule and follow the current vaccine mandate and opt-out system.
- Private or public charter schools should be permitted to designate themselves as “Vaccine choice” schools. This leaves assigned neighborhood schools as 100% vaccinated but allows those unable to be vaccinated for medical or religious reasons access to quality education.
- All public school employees must follow the same vaccine schedule as the students. It doesn't make sense for kids to be excluded from school for missing some vaccines if the staff caring for them don't have those vaccines.

I am in the capitol today and would love to discuss this bill or amendments with you in person. If you are free for a meeting, please have your assistant call or text me at 503-333-6443 and I can come meet you in your office or wherever is convenient for you.

Carissa Bonham
School board member
Mother of children unable to receive certain vaccines for medical reasons

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(Sent from my mobile device)