



March 27, 2017

TO: Senate Health Care Committee

FROM: Jay Rosenbloom, MD, PhD
Pediatrician, Pediatric Associates of the Northwest
Children's Health Alliance

SUBJECT: SB 580, SB 869 & SB 914

I am Jay Rosenbloom, MD, PhD. I am a pediatrician at Pediatric Associates of the Northwest in Lake Oswego. I am also the medical director of the Children's Health Alliance and Children's Health Foundation (CHA/CHF). The CHA/CHF is an association of over 100 primary care pediatricians across five counties in the Portland/Vancouver and Salem Metropolitan areas. CHA was established in 1998. Our mission is to promote a culture of improvement among member practices in order to improve pediatric care for all children. I am also the past co-chair of the Oregon Partnership to Immunize Children. In each of my roles I have had the honor of working to protect the health of children.

On behalf of the Children's Health Alliance and Children's Health Foundation, I ask that you vote against Senate Bills 580, 869 and 914.

None of these bills would do anything to advance the care or wellbeing of our state's children. This is a thinly veiled attempt to place administrative burdens on healthcare providers. The end result of these bills will be decreased vaccination rates with increasing rates of vaccine preventable disease and death. Providers are already required to discuss risks and benefits of any medical procedure (including vaccinations) before administering them. We are also required to give Vaccine Information Sheets (VIS) which are produced and updated by the Centers for Disease Control. These VIS explain risks and benefits, and all list the contact information for the Vaccine Injury Compensation Program.

SB 914 may be framed as medical freedom but it puts vulnerable populations at risk. For example, one quarter of influenza infections have little or no symptoms, but can be passed to those too young or too frail to be vaccinated. It is our legal and moral obligation to do everything in our power to not infect our patients with potentially deadly diseases. We are not advocating that the law mandate all vaccines for all people, but to require them in a medical setting protects the public health.



CHILDREN'S HEALTH *alliance*

As I have said before, we are fortunate to live in a time when public health efforts have been able to target a disease and then eliminate it from our population. Vaccines save millions of lives globally. Those of us in the medical field know the science, statistics and the research. **Vaccines are safe.** We know the dangers of not vaccinating. Many of us have seen children die from vaccine preventable diseases. I encourage everyone to oppose this legislation as a matter of public interest, public health, and to protect the health and lives of children within our state and beyond its borders.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in writing.

Jay Rosenbloom, MD, PhD

Medical Director