

Dear Members of the Committee, Representatives of the People of Oregon, Public Servants:
Please receive my written testimony for House Bill 3063:

I oppose HB 3063. I believe parents should retain their rights to refuse vaccinations without being coerced, and I believe all children should have access to an education regardless of vaccination status.

Unless a vaccine reaction happens to you or your child you will never fully understand the importance of being able to refuse a vaccine. The trauma involved in what happened to my daughter five years ago still gives her anxiety. My daughter, who is now nine, suffered immediate and long-term vaccine reactions from the DTaP vaccine administered by 3 injections the year she was four. My daughter was born with GI issues and was a weak baby. Because of this we chose to wait to vaccinate her. Our entire family is vaccinated and we didn't think much of it. But we wanted her to be strong before we gave her vaccines.

The first year she attended preschool, when she was three, she was the picture of health. We had not given her vaccines yet. She had outgrown her health issues and had no allergies to food that she struggled with previously. She rarely got sick. All the other parents commented on how Izzy's immune system was strong and outstanding.

The summer Izzy turned four we gave her the first shot in the DTaP series. She had three vaccine reactions including a fever of 101 for two days. Then three months later we gave her the 2nd injection in the series. She had more vaccine reactions including a fever of 101 for three days. After the 3rd injection of the DTaP series, she had six vaccine reactions including five days of 101 fever. I remember the rash that covered much of her body.

The long-term effects were much worse. After the 3rd shot in the DTaP series she was chronically sick and developed asthma. No one in our family has a history of asthma. She was unable to attend most of Kindergarten that year because as soon as she went to school, she would get sick and have to stay home a week to regain her strength. She would return to school only to get sick again. She developed pneumonia and bronchitis a few times that winter. During her asthma attacks she would have to use a nebulizer with Albuterol treatment (pharmaceutical asthma medication). Two years after the 3rd shot in the DTaP series she no longer had asthma. Now five years later and no more vaccines, Izzy has regained her health.

When considering any pharmaceutical medication, we weigh out the pros of the medication to the cons of the side effects. The insert of DTaP clearly states asthma as one of the possible side effects. After Izzy had to use the nebulizer with Albuterol for over a year, my husband and I are sure that side effect is not worth the vaccine. With our medical freedom we chose to not give her that pharmaceutical.

My children love going to school. They would be traumatized if we had to pull them out of school. I see it as one of the most severe, unnecessary punishments to a child to not allow them to go to school. I also worry how passing HB 3063 will affecting poorer families. I would quit my job and homeschool but this is a novelty. Most families need two incomes to survive. Preventing children from enrolling at school unless they are vaccinated violates children's right to education and increase inequalities in child health.

We follow the rules. If either of my daughters have a fever over 100.4, we keep them home from school. If they exhibit any sickness symptoms, we do not send them to school. I understand if they catch chicken pox, measles, etc we would keep them home for the 30+ days required. This is the responsibility of those not vaccinated. My husband and I take that responsibility very seriously.

Please continue to allow all children equal access to attend school.

Thank you for taking time to read my testimony.

Sincerely,

Julie Osbrack, MS

383 Pinnon Road, Grants Pass, OR 97526