## **Testimony against HB 3063**

Dear members of the health committee,

My name is Sylvia Colasacco. I am a wife and mother of 3 children and homeowner in Multnomah County. I write to you in opposition to HB 3063.

I'm am disappointed and alarmed at this new bill but unfortunately I am not surprised.

I have 3 beautiful children ages 15 ½, 13 and 9 years old. My first two are girls. I enthusiastically followed the CDC schedule and made sure they got all their shots at their well child check-ups. At the time, it was never sold as protecting other people's kids. This is a new sales pitch by the pharmaceutical industry. Because now it's not enough to believe you're protecting yourself when you get vaccinated. Now, suddenly you are responsible for taking on the risks of injury and death to supposedly protect others. I repeat, this is a sales pitch. Vaccines are a product. Our system of government has gotten so corrupt through lobbying by the pharmaceutical industry that now suddenly some of you sit here believing it's your job to force these products with all the risks associated with them on to the under 18 crowd in order for the "priviledge" through our tax dollars, to attend school.

Some of you may actually believe you're doing it to protect the children. Some of you may just be ignorant and believe the lie that vaccines are safe and effective. This classification is false. The Supreme Court has classified them as "unavoidably unsafe" so that drug companies could continue to push this product and be immune to liability. Instead, there is a vaccine court that is funded by taxpayers to address the injuries that do occur from vaccines. They have paid over \$4 billion. In spite of the very arduous process to even be heard and go before the panel with your injury or death, they still have managed to pay out billions of dollars.

I'm sure I won't be the only one that tells you this. I'm sure more prepared citizens have sent lots of data to show that vaccines are not safe nor are they effective. At least, not for everyone. For some people, they can lead to catastrophic injury. We are not all built the same. We have varying DNA which respond to different environmental assaults or even things that may be benign to some but not to others. Some show more susceptibility to having an allergic reaction to say, a bee sting. Even peanuts can be deadly to some individuals. Some people can smoke 10 packs of cigarettes a day and live well past their 80's. And for a while, the cigarette companies had scientist do "studies" to show there was no link between smoking and lung cancer or other lung diseases. My point is, one family can go through the routine shots of the ever expanding CDC schedule and apparently suffer nothing while another could get one shot and have a lifelong injury or disability. There are many cases in the billions of dollars paid out in successful claims.

My daughters got all their shots needed for kindergarten. They didn't appear to have any major side effects. At least, nothing like what happened to my normally developing baby boy. He was not so lucky. Something about the higher estrogen and lower testosterone in girls often protects them from some of the ingredients in vaccines. With my son, I took him in for his well child check up at 15 months. At this point he was starting to talk. His development was either ahead or on time. It pains me to look at his baby pictures, when he was engaged, he was there. Alert, happy. Then the light switched off. He got the stomach flu 2 days later, he changed. He stopped talking, It got worse and at 18 months the doctor had concerns but when I mentioned the vaccines she insisted that wasn't it. She dismissed it immediately and we gave him more shots. She certainly wouldn't think to report an injury to VAERS. She wanted her bonus money from the insurance company. The one that doctors get for every patient that follows the full CDC schedule with no spacing, no skipping. Can't miss one or she'd lose out on some big bucks.

Then he started to flap his hands, he started to do what is called "stimming." He is still non-verbal and he is still in diapers. Not a coincidence.

When something like this happens to your child, you're put in a position where you have to find out what happened, why this happened., how this happened.

I found out there was tons of research and information. Research that isn't funded by the drug companies and therefore it is dismissed or flat out ignored. The media, which gets countless amount of advertising dollars from the drug companies, won't publish it. They push out the same talking points, "debunked, safe effective, no links, just a coincidence...."

When you're not the one living with what so many families such as myself live with, you have no reason to look further. You will be happy to take what the media and the drug companies say at face value. And you can be easily led by the fear mongering that happens every time there's an alleged outbreak. Suddenly, it gets treated like it's Ebola and the vilification of the "anti-vaxxers" goes in full force. (I consider myself an ex-vaxxer. Most "anti-vaxxers" we enthusiastically "pro-vax" until we found we got the unlucky number in Russian roulette.

We get to be subjected to vitriol by the likes of representative Greenlick. We get dismissed, ignored, ridiculed, blamed, etc...

I sit here, after changing my 9 year old son's dirty diaper wondering who will take care of him when we're gone. What if he elopes and he's found drowned in a river. He needs constant care. He should be doing things like playing baseball or soccer. All the things dads dream of doing with their little boys are out the window. Instead he bites his dad's shoulder, pinches, kicks and pulls his hair. My son has a callous on his hand from where he constantly bites it. I would have rather he got the damn measles that you're all screaming and panicking about. My motherinlaw's mother went deaf in one ear from the measles. We're talking early 19<sup>th</sup> century by the way. She got married to her sweet heart that got back from WWII and had three children. I would take that any day over what my son has now.

I wish you would treat the emergency of the ever increasing rates of autism and the exploding special ed population with the level of urgency as you are treating what used to be considered a benign illness that had a finite course. Look up the Brady Bunch and the measles. Watch it. Tell me again how this is an emergency that warrants taking away my son's right to an education because I refuse to risk harming him further with booster shots. He has an IEP, he needs so much support and we will have to give that all up if this bill passes. He was sacrificed for the "greater good" and I will not sacrifice him further. He deserves so much more in this life. I will do what I must to protect him from further injury.

Sincerely, Sylvia Colasacco 4010 SW Hamilton Portland OR 97221