

I am writing in strong opposition of HB 3063. Many claim this bill does not take away a parent's right to choose for their child. That it does not mandate vaccines, parent's can just homeschool. However, this is not the case for many parents and families, for various reasons. I share 50/50 legal/physical custody of my older 2 boys (9 and 6 years old), and their father is very much opposed to homeschooling. As a stay at home mom, I have no problem with pulling my kids from public school and homeschooling, however since I only have them every other week, their father would need to be in agreement to also homeschool during his parenting time (which he will not and cannot do. So, should my children be discriminated against and denied an education because they have divorced parents? Should my right's as a parent be minimized, and stripped away because I am divorced and do my best to share custody as amicably as possible and give my children equal access to both of their parents?

Many other parents cannot survive the loss of income that it would entail to stay home and homeschool their kids, especially when many of us are already struggling to get by in this current economy. Should their children be denied their right to an education? Providing catastrophic consequences in order to coerce and force parents into vaccinating is not freedom. Saying vaccinate or don't get an education (paid by tax payers like myself) is not freedom. It's strong arming, bullying, and corruption at its finest.

This current bill will make it so that every child must get EVERY SINGLE vaccine on the schedule. Even if a child has every single vaccine, but their parents chooses to opt out only for the Hep B vaccine, then they will be denied their right to a public education. If this bill is about protecting the population and minimizing the spread of disease, how does it make sense that a child infected with Hep B, a child who actually has disease, is allowed to attend public school, but my healthy, disease free child cannot attend school for not receiving a Hep B vaccine? If this bill is about protecting the population and minimizing the spread of disease, why are teachers and parents not also required to provided proof of immunization? Why can parents volunteer inside of our public schools, many on a regular basis, and never be asked to provide proof of current vaccinations?

As the current laws stand, it is almost impossible to obtain a medical exemption in Oregon. Even if your child's pediatrician agrees your child has a condition that would make vaccination incredibly risky, the state (OHA) gets the final say, and short of a severe vaccine reaction they will almost never grant a medical exemption (if you do have a severe reaction to a vaccine then you may only get an exemption to that specific vaccine and will still be forced to get every single other vaccine until you have a severe reaction to each of those). If philosophical and religious exemptions are taken away, medical exemptions are nearly impossible to obtain, and many people cannot homeschool for various reasons, where is the choice? Where is the freedom for parents to make the best, educated and informed decisions for their child? Or does the state own our children? Mandates under the form of coercion, which is entirely what this bill is, is not freedom.

<https://www.oregon.gov/oha/ph/PreventionWellness/VaccinesImmunization/Documents/MedExmpguid.pdf>

<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/acip-recs/general-recs/contraindications.html>

According to the Oregon Health Authority, only 2.6% of school aged children are not vaccinated. Oregon's vaccination rates are well within the optimal range for herd immunity. We do not have

substantial decreasing immunization numbers as the media would like us to believe, so this bill would only serve to discriminate against a small minority.

In 1986 the manufacturing companies were removed of all liability from vaccine injuries and adverse reactions, including death. Instead, the department of Health and Human Services was federally assigned the task of furthering research and continuation of the study on vaccine safety with the requirement of biennial reports submitted to congress. In a recent lawsuit Health and Human Services admitted that they have gone against this federal mandate and have not conducted any safety studies or submitted a single report to congress in over 30 years!

<https://www.nvic.org/Vaccine-Laws/1986-Vaccine-Injury-Law.aspx>

<http://icandecide.org/government/ICAN-HHS-Stipulated-Order-July-2018.pdf>

According to the Health Resources and Services Administration, “Since 1988, over 20,332 petitions have been filed with the VICP (Vaccine Injury Compensation Program). Over that 30-year time period, 17,627 petitions have been adjudicated, with 6,358 of those determined to be compensable, while 11,269 were dismissed. Total compensation paid over the life of the program is approximately \$4.0 billion.” Health and Human Services estimates that only between 1-10% of vaccine reactions and injuries are reported under the current system.

<https://www.hrsa.gov/sites/default/files/hrsa/vaccine-compensation/data/monthly-stats-february-2019.pdf>

We cannot mandate (which, by means of coercion, this bill does for many families) a pharmaceutical product produced by non-liable, for profit companies, that carries potential severe risks including permanent disability and death.

I urge your support in opposing HB 3063 by voting “NO” at Thursday’s hearing, and ask that you stand with a parent’s right to decide what the best, informed choices are for their children and their families.

Elizabeth Moore, CNA II
Gresham, Oregon