

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Lauren Peck and I am a concerned parent here in Oregon. I have two children, one of whom is about to enter the public school system in September. I'm writing to you to express my concern over HB 3063, which removes non-medical vaccine exemptions in Oregon. I am concerned as a parent that my rights to make medical decisions, under the guidance and direction of a doctor according to my children's individual needs, is being threatened. This path of medical coercion goes against the values that Oregonians stand for; in a 2015 poll the majority of Oregon's citizens supported medical freedom.

I believe this is one of the biggest misunderstandings of people like my family that question the necessity and value of vaccines; that we do so on a whim, that its a fad we're keeping up with, that it goes along with some sort of lifestyle we're living and doing without much thought. I assure you, however, that that misunderstanding couldn't be further from the truth. I agonize over my children's health care decisions. I speak with doctors, I constantly seek information about medical research, studies done here in the US and other countries, who funds and sponsors that research, how that research references other studies and analyses done. I read countless articles on genetics, nutrition, historical data, side effects, contraindications. I pour through books, endless books on vaccines written by doctors and researchers. I scour vaccine inserts provided by the manufacturers that list pages and pages of side effects and risks. I do not take anything that involves my children lightly and that includes their medical well-being and safety.

We are a small number, those of us that have concerns about vaccines and their safety for our children. Oregon's unvaccinated/under-vaccinated (anyone who isn't 100% vaccinated is counted as "unvaccinated" in Oregon, so even if a child has natural chicken pox and doesn't need the varicella vaccine, they are counted as unvaccinated) rate is 2.6%. And has held steady for several years at 2.6%. This is not a growing trend that we need to act irrationally in response; nor is it the emergency that is being portrayed in the media. Especially when you consider that vaccine effectiveness is not 100%. The varicella vaccine, for example, has a success rate as low as 44%. That means that out of 100 vaccinated children exposed to chicken pox, half of them may still get it. Yet we as the public are being made to fear, resent, and remove the rights from the 2.6% of us that choose to exempt our children from a vaccine for their safety in a frightening overreaction to recent events.

The safety of vaccines is a huge concern. With increasing quantity I've seen multiple headlines in the media that points to concerns we should all share about what we're injecting the nations' children with, such as Sanofi Pasteur (one of the world's leading vaccine makers) discovering that glass was being mistakenly put into batches of Inactivated Polio Vaccine intended for infants. The FDA, even when it became aware of the glass particles, allowed Sanofi to continue to sell the defective batches for nearly 2 years after Sanofi assured them the vaccine was safe. How can we as parents and concerned citizens trust in a government organization that knowingly injects infants with a contaminated vaccine and allows it based

solely on the manufacturer's promises of safety, the manufacturer that stands to profit on the sales of those vaccines and holds no liability should those vaccines harm or kill a child?

Another headline this week is a whooping cough "outbreak" in California with 10 patients, all of whom were vaccinated against pertussis with the Tdap vaccine. Interestingly, none of the students that were unvaccinated (a whole 18 out of 1,600) have contracted pertussis. In the Journal of the Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society article dated February 22nd of this year, it's been determined that when a child's immune system has been "primed" by the DTaP vaccine, it leaves them more susceptible to contracting (and thus spreading) pertussis because the vaccine has permanently wired their immune system to launch a diminished response. Which is exactly what we're seeing with these pockets of concentrated cases around the country; most of, if not all, of the pertussis cases are in vaccinated individuals. If the goal of vaccination is to limit and eradicate a virus, then we can only consider the DTaP/Tdap a complete failure in doing so. Yet we continue to inject millions of infants and children with it around the country, subjecting them to a long list of side effects with nearly none of the benefit.

There has never been a true study done on the safety of vaccines. Vaccines are tested in very small numbers, without a true placebo, for a short window of time to look for immediate side effects like fevers, rashes, and seizures. They are individually tested against another injection with the same adjuvants (immune system stimulators), rather than being tested against a truly neutral component such as saline. We have NO studies that demonstrate long term, longitudinal, randomized and double-blind research on the safety and efficacy of vaccines of the current vaccine schedule. There is no research showing that giving the number of vaccines we're giving (the highest number and ever growing) is safe, nor is there research on how those vaccines counteract with one another. Vaccine manufacturers do their own safety and efficacy testing and report those numbers to the CDC and the FDA. They hold no responsibility or liability for those products once they hit the market. They are completely exempt from providing any compensation to victims of vaccine injury, and by consenting to vaccines you absolve them of any liability. The federal Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System, or VAERS, has paid out \$4 billion in taxpayer-funded compensation to victims of vaccine injury in the last 20 years, and pharmaceutical companies haven't paid one cent. (Side note, it's estimated that only 4% of vaccine injuries are reported to VAERS and even less actually receive any monetary compensation)

We want SAFE, EFFECTIVE, and TESTED vaccines for all children! Coerced vaccines are not the answer. Better vaccines are, and until we get those we have to maintain the right to choose the vaccines that work best and safest for our children. Please vote NO on HB 3063.

Sincerely,

Lauren Peck