Representative Andrea Salinas and House Health Care Committee Members –

I am asking you to please NOT schedule a public hearing for HB 3063 and to oppose any mandatory vaccination bills. There are so many families' that choose to decline certain vaccines or do an alternated schedule for specific health reasons and these choices should not inhibit their children's right to attend school. The right to education is legally guaranteed for all without discrimination in our country and we are thankful for this! Upon research, as well as our personal experience and personal knowledge of friends & family who struggle with autoimmune diseases and/or genetic disorders and have been told by their geneticists, endocrinologists, rheumatologists, etc. to stop vaccinations because they do not know the interactions that could exacerbate the unknown issues in their children.

Unlike the 7.5% the media reports, the true unvaccinated rate in Oregon is only 2.6% as many of these who were reported as "unvaccinated" actually only filed an exemption for one vaccine and not all and usually because of a KNOWN allergy to a specific ingredient. There is NO emergency of low vaccine uptake and because of this, excluding children from attending school if not 100% vaccinated is a poor solution for our state in an already difficult situation that parents are facing. In many (I would venture to guess, most) cases parents have legitimate health reasons for making this choice and they do not take it lightly. Allowing this bill to pass could potentially be creating a generation of kids without access to school who do not have other options of education. Please do not take away the right of parents who have their child's best interest at heart, parents who know their child's health issues firsthand and parents who are living their own medical fragility that will likely be passed onto their children.

Thank you for taking the time to hear our voices and taking into consideration these requests.

Sincerely,

Tamara Donivan
Oregon registered voter