

**TESTIMONY—HOUSE HEALTH COMMITTEE (2/28/19)**

Rep, madame chair, my name is David Sawyer and I live in Salem, Oregon.

Vaccines are a complex, involved topic, so I want to make some brief comments about risk, and the simple truth that it's the state's job to identify and help mitigate risk, not to force people to engage risk and perhaps be harmed by it.

For example, if the state legislature knew that a staff member in a daycare in Salem had been convicted of child abuse, they would never require me to enroll my daughter at the daycare.

But this legislation does the same thing: it forces me as a parent to enroll my daughter in a vaccine program that is known to cause harm, and what's worse, often random, unpredictable harm.

There is only one federal program that has its own courts, its own documented history of program injury, and a \$4 billion slush fund in the bank of taxpayer funds with which to pay out claims on injury. That is the national vaccine program. Since 1986, it has paid out \$3.7 billion dollars in claims; 50% of those claims have happened in the last six years.

The state would never require me to buy a Toyota because maybe it's accelerator pedals get stuck, Or buy a Pinto since maybe it's gas tank will explode. Vaccines rarely cause harm, but they absolutely can do it and they will do it randomly.

I refuse to put my daughter in harm's way, and I refuse to let you do it to her. That is not your job. Please vote to kill this bill.

David Sawyer, Salem, Oregon