

RE: HB 3063 - Testimony in Opposition. Hearing on February 28, 2019

Thank you House Healthcare Chair and Committee for accepting my testimony.

My name is Sonja Grabel. I live in Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon. I am submitting two testimonies, one as a parent and one as a teacher. This is from me as a "parent."

The media has us whipped up in a frenzy over the Measles. Fear sells. It sells newspapers. It sells drugs. It motivates. You have likely been told that Measles is on the rise and that we are all in danger. You've also been told that "anti-vaxxers" are to blame. Thankfully, none of this is true. Measles is not on the rise. And generally, measles isn't deadly. We have outbreaks of the measles every year. We just usually don't hear about every.single.case. In Oregon, we already have a very high vaccination rate, especially for the Measles. Even with many cases in Washington, we only had 4 cases in Oregon – none of which were acquired in the community. I know it is hard to comprehend, but some people WANT to catch the measles. Most of those in the Washington outbreak are of the belief that catching measles as a child confers many benefits. (Stronger immune system, prevention of cancers, life-long immunity that can be passed their infant.) Measles wasn't/isn't spreading wildly in Clark County or anywhere in Oregon. This is not an emergency. There is no measles emergency. There is no low-vaccination emergency. Shouldn't there be a real problem before we write a new law? Shouldn't we base our laws on facts and reason, not on fear and hysteria?

Everyone is concerned about the immune-compromised, me as well. It doesn't matter, though, how many people are vaccinated. Immune compromised individuals are susceptible to EVERYTHING. Strep throat, noro virus, colds, flus, etc. Even if every single child in a school is vaccinated, immune-compromised children will not be safe. Right now, there is an outbreak of Pertussis in California (where vaccines are mandatory.) Thirty kids have been diagnosed. 100% of them are vaccinated. There are 18 kids in that school who are unvaccinated, none of them got Pertussis. Clearly, the unvaccinated children aren't to blame. And clearly, being vaccinated doesn't insure you won't get sick. Just this month, there were 3 cases of viral "fever and rash" FROM the MMR vaccine. Measles is a viral fever and rash. The MMR vaccine is a live virus and can, in some cases, actually cause the measles – which is what did here. Under this proposed law, what will keep the immune-compromised safe from the MMR shedding? This law only covers schools. What Fortunately, those who are immune-compromised usually are only vulnerable for a short time, a few months or years, not their entire lives. If you bar children from school who are not fully vaccinated, you will be barring them for their entire school career.

Mandating vaccines will do little or nothing to improve health in Oregon. I doubt it will even raise the vaccination rate, as I don't know a single non-vaccinating parent who would submit to this. It will just create financial hardship and loss of educational resources for those families choosing not to fully vaccinate. It will erode support for our schools as those families pull out of the public school system. Given that research shows that those who choose to delay or avoid vaccines are often higher-income and highly educated, I'm betting that many of these parents are an asset to their local schools, donating their time and money as well as supporting local bond measures. It is a dangerous precedent to strip the rights of the populace when there is not a proven and immediate threat to the public.

VACCINE INJURED

There are far more vaccine injuries than most people realize. This is because the HHS and CDC actively tries to hide them. Did you know that the HHS commissioned a study to evaluate and improve VAERS? Harvard Pilgrim, who did the study, found that only 1-10% of injuries are captured by VAERS and began to design a more accurate system. When HHS found out how high the rate of injuries was, they pulled the study, wasting millions of dollars. Why would they do this unless to hide the results? Why would they not work to improve the system? Did you know that SIDS rates are increased after vaccination? Did you know that regular autopsies do NOT check for vaccines as a cause? Parents must first know about, then pay for a special autopsy that is thousands of dollars. Vaccine studies do not use a placebo. Some use another vaccine. Some use aluminum. This makes it impossible to know the true safety risks. Many, many families learned this the hard way. I know many families whose first child suffered injuries and chose to reduce vaccines for subsequent children. These families, already harmed by vaccines, would lose their education rights. They have suffered enough for "the greater good."

ETHICS

One thing I teach my children is that it is not their job to help adults. This is part of "stranger danger" or "tricky people" curriculum." For example, if an adult approaches them to ask you for help finding their dog or some other task, they should go straight to a trusted adult. Why? Because, adults don't ask kids for help. They ask other adults. With this bill, you are suggesting that it is one child's job to protect someone else. I disagree. It is not a child's responsibility to protect anyone else. This is the sort of sacrifice we ask of our military, not our children. It is unethical to ask a child to take a risk (and there are risks) for the sole purpose of protecting another child that he may never meet from a disease he may never get.

DR. ZIMMERMAN

You've heard many times that vaccines don't cause Autism. Dr. Andrew Zimmerman, an expert in pediatric neurology, was the government's expert witness in court that vaccines don't cause Autism and testified as such under oath. However, in June 2007, Dr. Andrew Zimmerman changed his opinion. He informed government lawyer that vaccines CAN cause Autism in a subset of children. DOJ attorneys responded by firing Dr. Zimmerman and misrepresenting his statement in court, robbing 5000 families of their due compensation. We only know of this now because Dr. Zimmerman came forward and admitted these details in a sworn affidavit. "It says: On June 15, 2007, he took aside the Department of Justice—or DOJ

Please vote "NO" on HB 3063.