

March 1, 2019

Dear Oregon Representatives,

I live in Southern Oregon. I am the mother of two school aged children.

**I strongly oppose House Bill 3063, which would eliminate non-medical vaccination exemptions for school children in Oregon. HB 3063 infringes upon our civil liberties.**

This bill is not in keeping with our values as Oregonians.

Where there is a risk of injury or death, no matter how small the perceived risk may be, there must be a choice.

To mandate a medical procedure with known risks is medically and morally unethical and a violation of our freedom of religion.

Parental choice and true informed consent regarding health and medical decisions are essential. Vaccines carry risks of adverse reactions that are well known by the manufacturers and listed in vaccine inserts. Any medical procedure that carries a risk of an adverse reaction should never be mandated.

Bill 3063 is a response to the recent media hysteria over the handful of measles cases in WA and OR rather than common sense public health concerns. During the recent "outbreak" there was one hospitalization and no deaths. There have been 11 documented deaths in the US due to measles since 1999. This is not a national or state emergency. We already have in place effective health measures to treat viral illnesses and to prevent deaths. Measles is a well known and understood childhood illness, with clear protocols for treating.

Vaccination rates have not dropped in Oregon in the past 20 years. Currently only 2.5% of Oregon school children are fully unvaccinated.

The pharmaceutical companies that manufacture vaccines have NO LIABILITY for any injuries or deaths that occur due to their vaccines. The current vaccine schedule is not backed by rigorous, objective scientific studies and review. This is unacceptable and a real threat to our children's health!

Are you aware that over 20,000 people have reported injury or death due to The Vaccine Adverse Reporting System (VAERS) the past 30 years? (This only takes into account official cases of reported vaccine injury and death. There are many thousands more that have gone unreported.) \$4 billion has been paid to 4,172 victims of vaccine injury and death by the US government since 1988.

To bring a 12 year old child up-to-date on vaccines would require several years if they were given in the recommended schedule. How is it fair to exclude that child from school now when they have done nothing wrong?

There are many great concerns that we as parents, grandparents and citizens have for our children in society today. There are many very real reasons to be anxious and worried.

The measles is not one of them.

For example: 26,000 children have been killed by gun violence in the USA since 1999. 87,000 children have been exposed to school shootings since 1999. Gun violence is now the 3rd leading cause of death of children in the USA. This is a true emergency situation deserving of governmental study, intervention and preventative policy.

Approximately 40,000 children have died in car accidents since 1999. Accidents are the leading cause of death of children. This is a national emergency worthy of study, intervention and preventative policy.

1.5 million children are homeless today in the USA. This is a national emergency worthy of study, intervention and preventative policy.

Mandated vaccination is not going to keep our children safe from gun violence, from school shootings, from homelessness, from car accidents or from the effects of war and climate change.

I believe that we share the same desire and concern for the safety of our children.  
Please respect MEDICAL FREEDOM AND PARENTAL CHOICE IN OREGON by NOT SUPPORTING BILL 3063.

Sincerely,

Michelle LaFave  
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