

Dear House Health Care Committee:

My name is Sarah and I live in Hillsboro, OR.

I am writing one last time to tell you I oppose HB 3063. Medical decisions should not be coerced by the state and education held hostage.

Both my sons have several food and animal allergies. Injecting them with a vaccine that contains one of their allergens could cause a life threatening reaction yet under the current medical exemptions rules my sons won't qualify for one. As a parent doing my best to keep my sons safe, how can I play the odds and inject them with a vaccine knowing there is a risk of a serious reaction? It is unfathomable that my right to have a discussion with our pediatrician on the risks and benefits of an immunization and informed consent are in the process of being removed. The National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986 made it illegal to sue vaccine manufacturers if their product harms or kills my child yet I can sue them for any other drug that does the same. As an individual that chooses to vote yes on this bill that is likely to cause harm to my sons, are you going to take on the liability yourself?

I am not pro vaccine or anti vaccine. I stand for my right and the right of my son's for informed consent and freedom of choice, our right of religious and philosophical beliefs, the right of any child, regardless of their vaccine status, to have access to daycare, private school, public school and an education.

I urge you to oppose HB 3063 and any legislation that mandates vaccines or removes religious or philosophical exceptions.

Our bodies, our families, our jurisdiction, our choice. Where there is risk, no matter how little or big that risk is, there must be choice. You cannot mandate a liability free product.

Thank you,

Sarah Koeltzow, Oregon Resident, Registered Voter
Concerned Parent and Advocate for Informed Choice

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Sarah Koeltzow