

Good afternoon Chair Salinas, Vice Chairs and Members of the Committee,

Thank you Vice-Chair Hayden for this crucial amendment.

I was born, raised and surrounded by religion with my siblings and immediate family spanning many faiths from Christianity, Buddhism, Jehovah, Judaism and Scientology. I am a firm believer that people of all faiths should never have their beliefs taken away to be able to attend school.

My children attend a wonderful Christian school and learn about God on a daily basis. They also respect people of all faiths and I encourage them to learn about all faiths to be able to appreciate all religions and respect other's faiths.

2013 SB132 - Removal of Religious exemption

In 2013 Senator Elizabeth Steiner Hayward promised when removing the religious exemption that this would not take away a parent's right or their beliefs that we were just removing it and keeping the non-medical exemption with further educational requirements . *We were all assured that our religious beliefs would be protected under the non-medical exemption.*

2015 SB442

Senator Elizabeth Steiner-Hayward went after removing all of our exemptions despite Oregon having high vaccination rates, no outbreaks and no emergencies. Her brother Joshua Steiner has worked for Pharmaceutical companies for years through Bloomberg and remains very tied into Oregon legislation including being on a call with OHA several months ago to add a new vaccine to the school schedule. Senator Steiner-Hayward continues to receive campaign funds from these vested interests.

2015 SB895

Senator Elizabeth Steiner-Hayward championed legislation that would require all schools to report their vaccination rates. I don't think she realized that this legislation ended up working in Oregon families favor because the lies on Oregon's vaccination rates could no longer stand. It confirmed that we have the highest vaccination rates in the nation due to the number of required vaccines on the schedule. Downside is that Reporter Molly Harbarger has used this as a way to target schools (identifying individuals) with higher exemption rates (per these stats Oregon only has 2.6% fully unvaccinated). ***Last year students were called out in front of their class as being "unvaccinated", many of these unvaccinated for religious reasons.***

2015 CCO Benchmark Bonus 78% vaccine uptake

Senator Steiner-Hayward through her committee position with another organization pushed with OHA to add a bonus incentive to all CCOs and Doctors contracted through the CCO that have 78% of their practice fully vaccinated on the CDC schedule. This benchmark pool is now up to 400 million dollars with numerous meeting the 78% benchmark noted above. *This year OHA has pushed that % rate up to 81.1% and an increasing reports of parents being kicked out of their Doctors office due to following a delayed schedule or opting out vaccines with aborted fetal cell lines (religious belief).*

2019 HB3063

Rep Mitch Greenlick, a good friend and colleague of Senator Steiner-Hayward decided to champion this legislation and has openly made misrepresentations about Oregon's vaccination rates/exemption rates since May of last year with the sole purpose of introducing this legislation. Despite my emails to Rep

Greenlick after clarifying the stats with and himself, he has continued to state inaccuracies about Oregon's vaccination rates to legislators and media.

Per input from Democratic Representatives and Senators, Senator Steiner-Hayward is most definitely active in pushing this legislation and while not confirmed yet by records requests, could be a crucial individual in the writing of the legislation and conveniently placed on the Joint Ways and Means committee, where the legislation has been referred to.

It should concern you that Oregon taxpayers were promised many times that our religious and personal beliefs to avoid one or more vaccines will not be impacted. The co-sponsors on this legislation promised us that our right to practice faith and opt out based on religious grounds is not being messed with. **We were promised by the very people who signed on as co-sponsors over the past 7 years that our Religious beliefs are important and will not be taken away.**

HB3063 is removing our religious beliefs and our religious right to congregate and a free and fair education. I urge you to adopt the -2 amendment with specific change that a person should be able to opt out on **religious grounds**.

Best regards,

Brittany Ruiz
Parental Rights Advocate