



CHA URGES YOUR SUPPORT OF HB 3063

The Children's Health Alliance (CHA) supports HB 3063, which would limit vaccine exemptions against preventable diseases on behalf of children for reasons other than a child's indicated medical diagnosis.

Every parent wants their child to live a happy, healthy life. And, due to persistent misinformation regarding the safety of vaccinations, some parents choose to delay or forgo the recommended vaccine schedule as a result of discredited studies. However well-intentioned the actions of these parents are, unvaccinated children who do not qualify for a medical exemption pose a significant risk to themselves, as well as others in the community.

The medical community recognizes that vaccinations are not for everyone – some children are immunocompromised from organ transplantation, chemotherapy or immune deficiency conditions and rely on herd immunity to protect them. These children rely on the community maintaining a high level of inoculation to protect them from preventable diseases that, given their compromised immune systems, can cause significant health risks and in some cases may even be fatal. This has led some families of immunocompromised children have made the decision not to send their children to school due to the dips in vaccine rates in their community.

Some have suggested that vaccines are the victim of their own success. They've done such a good job of preventing diseases like measles, that many parents of young children do not fully understand the serious threat they pose. Many families do not realize the possible outcomes of diseases like measles, which can cause pneumonia, encephalitis (brain swelling), deafness or even death.

The resurgence of measles has demonstrated the failure of our current exemption model. Currently, parents can choose to withhold vaccinations from their own child for personal or philosophic reasons, regardless of whether it puts their child or other children at increased risk. This bill would protect those children from being unnecessarily exposed to diseases that have been previously eradicated. For the benefit of immunocompromised children, and our shared public health, CHA urges your support for HB 3063.

Vote YES on HB 3603

CHA is an association of over 120 independent primary care pediatricians across five counties in the Portland/ Vancouver and Salem Metropolitan areas. CHA pediatricians care for approximately 140,000 children, and are committed to improving the health of all Oregon's children.

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*From the desk of
Rep Schauten
Sheri Schauten*

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5/6/19
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CHILDREN'S HEALTH *alliance*

