

Submitter: Jacqueline Erhardt
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1598

My name is Jacqueline Erhardt, and I support vaccine access.

I am a 73 year old lifetime Oregon resident with a compromised immune system. I do not want to see conspiracy theory replace science. I received polio, DPT, measles mumps and rubella vaccinations as well as one for small pocks as a child. I had mumps, measles and chicken pox prior to the vaccinations as my parents intentionally exposed all of us to any sick sibling. The mumps were very painful and I got very sick with the measles. I got covid 19 in 2023 from my daughter even though we wore facemasks and followed covid protocol. Her case was bad and mine mild. We had both received at least two vaccines prior. My daughter caught it at work from sick students.

My daughter is a teacher and is exposed to unvaccinated children at school. She also is the child that helps me when I .need her. She has had covid two or three times from exposure at work. She recently got an intestinal illness which was going around school and ultimately ended up at urgent care because of intense pain. She uses a face mask at work and disinfects her classroom regularly. She was told she could no longer get the covid 19 vaccine because she doesn't fit within the requirements. Supposedly "children don't pass illness on". I don't want my daughter dying of an illness that can be alleviated by or prevented by a vaccine that reduces her chance of exposure.

Please pass Senate Bill 1598.