

Submitter: Meredith Peyton  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1598

As a licensed Oregon physician and responsible, educated parent, I strongly oppose this bill.

Vaccines are not the only preventive measure to be considered for the health of our communities.

Yet there is no consideration in this bill regarding the preventive importance of diet, exercise, intake of clean water, exposure to sunshine and clean air, access to high quality, clean food, traditional medicines and so on. The 'preventive measures' are not defined in this bill whatsoever. Only vaccines are cited.

This partisan reaction to the CDC's much needed and tragically late changes for guidelines is knee jerk and unnecessary, as Oregonians will continue to have access to vaccines, no matter what the federal recommendations are.

We Oregonians do not however have guaranteed access to the laundry list of other preventive measures mentioned above. We certainly will not benefit from a one size fits all approach to healthcare. We will benefit most from continued access to our care providers and continued medical decision making for ourselves.

Perhaps ensuring these basic needs are met for every Oregon citizen should be the priority for Public Health officials. I believe that would be something every Oregonian would stand by.

Additionally, I specifically oppose sections 6a and 6b of this bill. Physicians and Public Health officials should not be given immunity from liability if they cause harm, be it under a 'standing order' or not. Preemptively giving immunity from liability is a slippery slope and questionable at the very least. This is why physicians are to carry malpractice insurance. We always strive to do no harm. But in the instances when there is harm from a medical procedure or intervention, there must be liability.