

Dear Representatives,

Please hear the voices of your people, who deserve the most basic right of bodily autonomy and control over our futures. I am vehemently opposed to House Bill 3063. As a constituent, a parent, and a former teacher, I have many difficulties with this proposed legislation. I believe it will harm families, harm schools, and harm our lives.

I have a neurologically atypical child that receives special education through his school. If he were forced to become neurologically impaired (which is, of course, a known side-effect of all vaccines as it is stated on the inserts that come in vaccine packaging), it would be on your heads, but it would all fall to us. It would not serve him, or his future, and would come at an enormous cost to my family and to the school system as well. As it is, we have spent long years supporting his growth through interventions and additional support. The school has invested a lot already, and seen him make amazing progress. We have spent thousands of dollars on therapies, some not covered by insurance. We cannot afford for our child to be put in this position. We have worked too hard to help him succeed for you to dictate his future health and wellbeing by mandating what goes in his body. We would be forced to pull him out of school, or even leave Oregon.

This is a dangerous game to be playing with the lives of your people. Many of whom will suffer if forced into medical treatments that are not appropriate or safe for them. It is disgusting that corporations can profit from harming children in this way, under the protection of the government, with no real penalty for any error. The damages would rest solely with those parents who must care for their suffering children. It is not up to you to decide our lives and our futures when we bear the burden. We must actually protect the most vulnerable by respecting the needs of individuals and retaining the right to medical freedom.

You must know that schools cannot keep up with the demands of students with special needs, at great cost. The number of students with Individualized Education Plans has skyrocketed. There are not enough staff or enough funding to make this right as it is. Many teachers no longer have skills to deal with the range of difficulties that appear in our classrooms today. You jeopardize their future, the future of the school system in our state, and millions of dollars. We cannot afford this, and we do not agree that it is in our interest. Already, we are operating with severe handicaps, that would be further increased by this bill.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I hope that my experience as a parent and teacher means something to you and that you decide against this bill. I assure you that I do not take this lightly, and have researched this topic from many angles. It is a very divisive and heated issue, that draws strong opinions from all sides. I appreciate your willingness to see this from my perspective and hope you will remember how much we all love our children.

Best,
Kendra Ortner