

HB3063 - OPPOSED

Good afternoon Chair Salinas and members of House Healthcare Committee

In 2017 SB869 informed consent legislation had a hearing. The people that came out opposed to the legislation were coalitions and associations that have been supporters of transparency in the past.

With being trained as HR Investigator, I submitted a series of public records requests to OHA, and specific Senators connected to the associations that opposed that legislation.

After reviewing over 600 pages of documents I learned that we have a secret underground network of Legislators, hospitals (Kaiser, OHSU, Legacy Randalls), ONA, specific universities , 12 different non-profits, lobbyists with public health agencies conducting “work groups” and “meetings” to combat “vaccine hesitancy”.

I learned that Oregon Health Authority provided a grant to then new non-profit BOOST Oregon. OHA paid for BOOST's education brochures and BOOST did not disclose that in their materials. BOOST received funds from the CDC Cooperative Fund (Pharma dollars) and OHA. OHA continues to fund BOOST Oregon and only recently added that OHA and CDC are partners to their latest brochure.

I learned that a specific Senator pushed to add a CCO bonus incentive for all practices contracted that have 78 % of all patients fully vaccinated. This is now in place. This is something that was severely frowned upon for drugs.

May 2018 - OHA sent the Governor a good news report that Oregon has exceedingly high vaccination rates all across the boards with “majority vaccinated” .

That same time the now removed Chair of House Healthcare stated false stats during a hearing, saying Oregon has the lowest vaccination rates and that we were considered 51 of 50 states. I emailed all the Healthcare Committee members at that time giving them the true stats and asked Rep Greenlick for his source of that information. He said he “couldn't remember who gave him that report”. When I mentioned I would be submitting a public records request, he called me and told me “he doesn't remember much and he thinks it was someone in public health”.

June 2018 - OHA sent out a bogus press release to news agencies saying our exemption rates sky-rocketed. I reached out to OHA and got the true stats. I confirmed with OHA that they've never sent out a press release before. Exemption rates do not equal unvaccinated children. Per an email with OHA to myself, our fully unvaccinated population K-12 is only 2.6 %. Of the 604,000 students enrolled in private, public and charter only 31,500 have an exemption, of those 31,500 with an exemption on file only 15,700 are fully unvaccinated, majority of those with an exemption are fully vaccinated for communicable diseases.

I personally sent out emails to all the newspapers stating that their data was wrong and their reporting is wrong and asked them to fix. OPB was the only media organization that fixed it. I also let legislators know this as well.

Subsequently the new line of “Oregon has the lowest vaccination rates in the nation” started up and is a complete fabrication. Oregon has 94 % statewide vaccinations with many counties at 98 %. Per CDC Oregon has above national average vaccine rates. Oregon also has the third highest requirements of vaccinations for school in the US.

Oregon has very high vaccination rates for MMR and per hearing on Feb 7th by Dr. Peter Cieslak we have 95.8 % vaccination rates for MMR. Per OHA’s disease surveillance Oregon averages 4-5 cases of measles per year with some years as high as 14 and 9. Per the CDC our MMR percents have never gone down.

I emailed all the legislators showing them the true stats from CDC and how Oregon is actually not dead last but right in the middle with many other states being dead-last.

About this time, I also learned that that OHA’s Immunization Manager, Aaron Dunn is an executive board member of a non-profit known as Association for Immunizations Managers. A non profit fully funded by the biggest vaccine manufacturers in the world. I learned that he had attended a conference in San Diego where Pharma lobbyists, Reps and individuals were instructing him on how to remove non medical exemptions and increase vaccine uptake and telling him that groups pushing for informed consent are AIM’s enemies.

Shortly after, I found out through a Public Health lobbyist that there were public meetings being scheduled and held by the OHA that were not made known to the public that would mandate new vaccines. Minutes were not being posted and the schedule was not up online. The lobbyist said “you have to be on the inside to go to those meetings”. I also heard the same thing from Aaron Dunn of OHA. These meetings, I later came to find out were to vote on adding new vaccines to the current schedule and also opposing my informed consent legislation. These insider’s included stakeholders with Pharma, ONA and the other people noted above.

I had to contact OHA on why they didn’t make another public meeting known and only sent out an alert 3 days before the meeting was to be convened. I then started researching the individuals that attend those meetings and found out that not only is there a public meeting but these same individuals also do private meetings on taxpayer time and money. Several years ago our Public Health agencies started a non-profit using taxpayer dollars and taxpayers are not allowed to attend these meetings. I found out that they too are pushing the same Pharmaceutical message, it’s called Oregon Coalition of Local Public Health Officials and are opposing our legislation for informed consent and being directed to support this legislation as well.

I then found out that these local public health agencies all signed an InterGovernment Agreement (IGA) and by doing that they get access to significant CDC grant money (Pharma) and other funds from OHA. These agreements force the public agencies to exclude students from school (something that is also a mission statement of AIM) in a discriminatory manner (they are only applying one part of the law) and also require the public health agency to push only vaccine uptake and not safety. Per several public health officials I’ve talked to, their hands are tied because “OHA has told us to do this and we could lose our funding”. Why aren’t these IGA’s public knowledge?

Today during this hearing, you will recognize many of the people testifying in support of this legislation because their “bullet points” sound very similar. They’ve been instructed

to tell you these things knowing full well they have financial and ethical conflicts of interest with Pharmaceutical companies.

For Transparency Sake: Oregon Nurses Association has united many of these groups and has been active for several years to remove our exemptions, to include several hundred thousand dollars supporting campaigns across Oregon last year to get newly elected Senators and Representatives in key committees that would vote to remove our rights. 3 of those newly elected are not only on this committee but Chief Co-Sponsors of this legislation and are the highest recipients of funding from ONA (ONA spent 240K last year alone). All the Chief Co-sponsors and Sponsors of this legislation have received substantial funding from the ONA and Pharma groups.

ONA Prusak 152K
ONA Alonso Leon - 11K
ONA Mitchell -13K
ONA Nosse - 7K
ONA Greenlick - 7K
ONA Keny Guyer 2K
Rep Wilde - 10K
ONA Shouten - 6K
ONA Sen Wagner - 7K
ONA Anna Williams 20K
ONA Doherty -2K
ONA BSW - 2K
ONA McKeown 5K
(240K from ONA)

PHRMA (Pharmaceutical Research & Manufacturer's Association of American)
Rep Drazan - PHRMA
Rep Helt - 7K PHRMA
Sen Chuck Thomsen PHRMA
Rep Boles - PHRMA
ONA Hayden - Pharma
ONA Noble - Pharma

You need to ask yourself where is all this money coming from and why is ONA working with Pharmaceutical companies to remove a parent's right to choice? You need to ask yourself why ONA has been flat out getting Doctors and nurses to send in testimony to support removing parent's rights to choice?

Why can't we find out who is paying these non-profits that conduct secret meetings to take away a parent's choice and help fill the bank accounts of Pharmaceutical companies? Why hasn't a single bonus, statistic, class or seminar been done on vaccine safety as well as uptake something that is required by federal law and statute?

Our public health agencies, some legislators, universities, hospitals and OHA have been fully captured by Pharma and you should start demanding an investigation into how bad it really is. This legislation is not about our children's health, it's about lining pockets of the biggest vaccine manufacturers.

Brittany Ruiz

Citizen Yamhill County