

Re: I Oppose HB3063 Mandatory Vaccination Bill

Dear House Health Care Committee Members,

As an Oregon resident, and one of your constituents, I believe in the right of true informed consent and a parent's right to decide what medical treatment their child receives, I oppose HB3063 and urge you to vote "NO" as it removes my right to decline immunizations on behalf of my children. Medical decisions should never be coerced by the state. We have a right to know what is being done to and put in our bodies and the bodies of children while they are underage and in our care, as well as the right to decline medical procedures, including vaccines.

Our country is built on the foundation of religious rights and separation of church and state. The state should not remove our rights to an informed decision to decide for or against vaccinations. The state should not hold religious parents hostage to choose between allowing their kids to receive a public education, private education or attend daycare while following their sincere religious beliefs by removing the religious and philosophical vaccine exemptions. Regardless of your stance on vaccinations, it is our right as a parent to make that decision, not the state.

Per the Supreme Court: "It is cardinal with us that the custody, care and nurture of the child reside first in the parents, whose primary function and freedom include preparation for obligations the state can neither supply nor hinder. It is in recognition of this that these decisions have respected the private realm of family life which the state cannot enter. - Prince v. Commonwealth of Massachusetts, 321 U.S. 158 (1944)"

Arizona Rep. Nancy Barto: "We are here to acknowledge vaccines have a place, but it's every parent's individual right to decide the vaccine's place in the child's life." - Jim Satney, Prepper Digest (February 24, 2019)

Please preserve our rights as parents to make informed decisions regarding the medical care of our children and our right to accept or decline vaccinations.

Our bodies, our families, our jurisdiction, our choice. It is as simple this: our American right to freedom of choice.

Sincerely,

Abel Koeltzow, Oregon Resident, Registered Voter
Concerned Parent and Advocate for Informed Choice