

Good afternoon, my name is Greg Clark and I live and vote in Hillsboro.

I would like to thank Chair Salinas and members of the Health Care Committee for allowing testimony on this important topic today.

Today I testify in opposition to HB 3063.

Growing up, I received my fair share of vaccinations. I received “extras” at the time as I pursued a future in the medical field, working with patients, receiving the recommended Hep B vaccine series. I traveled to the Soviet Union in High School on an exchange program. I was a tried and true vaccination supporter and accepted without question that “fact” that they were safe and effective.

We grow, we mature, and we learn. Science progresses and new truths are uncovered. It’s a never-ending process and is NEVER settled.

Did you know that smoking is good for you? Doctors used to prescribe “healthy” cigarettes. “More doctors smoke Camels than any other cigarette!” It’s true, from the 1930’s through the 1950’s, doctors were some of the strongest advertising muscle behind cigarette sales. I’m sure they honestly believed that they were wholly safe, with no adverse health effects. They were sincere, not at all motivated by the enormous amounts of money their endorsements brought it. Right?

Today, doctors widely support vaccinations by parroting marketing slogans direct from the CDC and vaccine manufactures. Due to legislation passed in 1986, neither doctors, nurses, nor the vaccine manufactures have any legal liability if something goes wrong with a vaccine. Doctor are paid bonuses from health insurance companies if practice wide vaccination levels are above a certain threshold. The doctors say: “Safe and effective”, “Settled Science”, “No risk”.

All these statements are factually incorrect, as there are studies that show risk for specific individuals with genetic variations. There are statements from the Supreme Court exclaiming vaccines are “unavoidably unsafe”. The US government has paid out over 4 billion dollars since 1986 to families of individuals that have been found, in vaccine court, to have suffered an adverse event to a vaccination. These events range from severe health issues up to and including death.

Though a common refrain in testimony on this issue, the simple truth is “Where there is risk, there must be choice”

This ill-advised bill should not move forward. The risk is too great, the unknowns too many and the potential costs in health and dollars are too high.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Greg Clark

Hillsboro, Oregon