

From: [John Kertchem](#)
To: [HHC Exhibits](#)
Subject: Concerning rush Bill HB3063
Date: Thursday, February 28, 2019 10:38:10 AM

Dear Legislators of Oregon:

I have learned of House Bill 3063 which will require state-enforced mandatory vaccines.

This is a bad idea as it strikes directly at our country's ideals of freedom of choice (such as are debated fiercely concerning a woman's right of choice re her body and abortion). Vaccination is a similar area that government enforcement would best be left out of.

I suspect that this bill has been introduced because of the rising number of families who are opting out of the myriad of vaccines.

You will find that this increase is coincident with the increase of vaccines that have now become recommended. Not all of these are 100% effective, such as the ever-changing shots for various strains of flu.

I am not against all vaccines. Quite the contrary, I grew up in the 1950s when the polio remedy came out. Vaccines for major killer diseases like smallpox and others have been good. But like many people my age, we easily survived less serious diseases such as chickenpox, measles, and numerous flus.

It comes back to choice and what parents see as best for their child. To make a correct choice requires factual data and non-biased information.

I would wholeheartedly support a bill that sought to educate parents with *accurate* information about vaccines, what is in them, actual effectiveness of specific vaccines, consequences of contracting a disease a vaccine is designed to prevent, so forth.

I have worked as an educator in a private school for over 40 years. I have seen the increase over the years in parents opting out of vaccines. As noted, the increase is coincident with the number of vaccines being recommended. The majority of these parents have done their own research re vaccines, what's in them, the risks and have come to their own

conclusions. That's freedom of choice.

Then there are the economic factors: Companies that make these vaccines already make large profits. They would make much more with vaccines enforced and mandatory. Causes a concern. Private schools, such as mine, would lose a number of families who would likely withdraw their kids and figure out tutoring or home schooling than be forced to vaccinate their kids. The educational opportunities provided by private schools would be lost, a negative effect for any private school but more importantly for the education and well-being of the children themselves.

I ask that you please look at this rationally and protect the freedom of choice our country has given to its citizens. A better solution can be created with a real and honest parent education program. Let's do that.

Respectfully,

John Kertchem
[Delphian School](#)
503-843-5863

