

My name is Emily Mudd. I am a resident of the city of McMinnville, in Yamhill County, in the state of Oregon.

I am testifying against House Bill 3063.

I oppose this bill because it is extremely discriminatory. I do not believe any child should be excluded from public schools because the parent chooses to exempt their child from one or more vaccines due to their own religious or philosophical reasons. Parents are the ones that should have the right to make the best medical decisions for their children - not the government. The state should not have the authority to deny any child their right to a public education simply because the private medical decisions their family made differ from the private medical decisions of their neighbors.

If this bill were to pass, 31,521 students who currently have non-medical exemptions would lose their right to a public education, as well as every other child not currently enrolled in public school. No parent should be forced to vaccinate their child or forced to homeschool their child due to a private medical decision. The cost of living is very high in the state of Oregon, and only rising with the minimum wage increase. For most families, it takes two incomes to get by. Consider all the parents that would have to quit their jobs and begin homeschooling, and even risk losing their homes, if this bill were to pass. Consider also, the single parents who don't even have the option to homeschool.

There is no such thing as a "one size fits all" medicine. We are all individuals, with our own individual immune systems.

All children deserve the same equal rights, and all parents deserve to keep their right to make the best medical decisions for their children.

The state of Oregon does not have the right to force parents to sacrifice their religious and philosophical beliefs for their child's education.

I strongly urge you to vote NO on House Bill 3063.

Thank you!