

February 28, 2019

Regarding HB 3063

Honored Representatives and Legislators,

I am a mother of three boys who are 13, 10 and 7 years of age. They are all healthy and they have been vaccinated. However, my husband and I spent time looking into vaccines before our first child was born, and we opted for a graduated schedule for our children. We were relieved and pleased to have had that option.

Why were we concerned about the issue? We know a family with a vaccine injured child. He is an adult now, but I cannot even express to you the stress and trauma that his injury caused over the years. It changed the entire dynamic of his family, and it has affected his capacity to function as an adult in society.

When it comes to vaccines, many percentages are bandied out as to their efficacy and safety for the general public. But for the parents of a child, be it your child or mine, the risk is either 100% or 0%-- the child's unique genetic and biological make up will either tolerate the vaccination or react adversely.

I urge you to vote NO on HB 3063 for the following reasons:

Informed Consent and the Right of the Parent

I know each of my children well. It is my honor and responsibility to raise my children to be thoughtful, informed people, good neighbors and global citizens. My authority to guide and guard them in every arena, including their medical welfare, should not be infringed upon. I should be able to consent to or opt out of a medical procedure for my child.

Vaccine Evaluation and Medical Ethics

HB 3063 disallows exemptions for medical procedures that have not been evaluated to the extent that they should be. The recommended vaccines have not all been vetted for safety through double blind placebo studies. Some of the newest vaccines have not been on the market long enough to determine their actual efficacy or unintended long term side effects. Additionally, the first Hepatitis B shot is given at birth, regardless of whether the child is at risk for Hepatitis B exposure. It is impossible to know within the first twenty-four hours whether a new baby is allergic or sensitive to this vaccine. I delayed the administration of this vaccine for each of our children until we had a health history to assess. I want every parent to have this freedom.

Moreover, mandated vaccinations sets an uncomfortable precedent for medical ethics that harkens back to some very humbling moments in our nation's history. We do, after all, have the distinction of being the first Western nation to legalize compulsory sterilization prior to World Wars I and II. The crimes against humanity perpetrated during the Second World War gave rise to the Nuremberg Code and the Declaration of Helsinki. Following is the first point of the Nuremberg Code. The reach of HB 3063 should be evaluated according to these principles (*italics mine*):

The voluntary consent of the human subject is absolutely essential. This means that the person involved should have legal capacity to give consent; should be so situated as to be able to

exercise free power of choice, without the intervention of any element of force, fraud, deceit, duress, over-reaching, or other ulterior form of constraint or coercion; and should have sufficient knowledge and comprehension of the elements of the subject matter involved, as to enable him to make an understanding and enlightened decision. This latter element requires that, before the acceptance of an affirmative decision by the experimental subject, there should be made known to him the nature, duration, and purpose of the experiment; the method and means by which it is to be conducted; all inconveniences and hazards reasonably to be expected; and the effects upon his health or person, which may possibly come from his participation in the experiment. *The duty and responsibility for ascertaining the quality of the consent rests upon each individual who initiates, directs or engages in the experiment. It is a personal duty and responsibility which may not be delegated to another with impunity.*

With respect and appreciation,

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