

**From:** [Christi Smith](#)  
**To:** [HHC Exhibits](#)  
**Subject:** HB3063 request to be heard  
**Date:** Friday, March 1, 2019 1:54:49 PM

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To whom it may concern,

My background is a parent of 3 great kids who are 8th generation Oregonians (that's right the family has been here since before Oregon was a state), a regular school volunteer and PTO member, active in kids sports, formerly worked at Department of Human Services helping needy families receive medical & food help as well as help families and individuals in domestic violence situations. I am bilingual and helped people who struggle to communicate to the English speaking monolingual people and vice versa. I've lived in the country of Guatemala and traveled beyond. I'm extremely active in scouting and my church. I've even been apart of bringing together events to promote diversity in the Woodburn area. I currently live in the countryside of Canby and am a stay at home mom. I'm also active in politics... I vote. I'm not overly aggressive in any way and generally have a get along attitude.

I am deeply saddened right now... this bill, HB3063, does not reflect the values that I grew to love about our country. When I lived in Guatemala I became so incredibly aware of how grateful I was to be a citizen of a country that values freedom as we do. Oregon has been so progressive that it stays out of people's bedrooms and supports equal rights for the LGBTQ+ community, it stays out of a women's body as it supports PRO Choice, it even recognized citizen rights to consider marijuana as a viable medication... but here we are.

Vaccines. I support the use of vaccines. I vaccinate my children with caution just as I give medication to my children with caution. I want my kids to be safe and have been grateful for the education modules that were required in order to request a nonmedical exemption.

My first child was born with a large congenital nevus. It covered at least a 3rd of his face. Starting at 6 months he started surgeries to remove it. Every 6 months from then on we would be in the hospital for another procedure from cutting it out and closing him up to skin grafts, face lifts and skin stretchers until he was 5. We chose not to vaccinate him during this time. We leaned on help from our family while my husband finished his law degree at Willamette University keeping his Dean scholarship and while I went to full time, putting my bachelors on hold, to work at DHS to help others while receiving insurance to cover his medical need. We felt the stress on his body was more than enough for that time and chose to hold off on vaccinations.

We took precautions knowing that since he wasn't vaccinated he would need to leave preschool if a serious illness was confirmed in order to keep him & others safe, I disinfected shopping carts and stayed close to home with the flu was the worst over the years.

He's been caught up to the CDC standard for his age and at his pace, since we started later. I started with the most threatening. I share this because I'm not against vaccines. I think they're a great medication! In fact, on my maternal side a family member was apart of creating one of the earlier vaccines.

I wish to protect parental rights to not vaccinate. Protect freedom as Oregon and as the United States is known for. I hope that you will vote no on this bill and protect a parents right to know their child, gain knowledge from modules presented by our fine state and work with their doctor to determine what's best for their child. There are other ways to protect our country and taking away freedoms like this will come at too high a cost.

Please look for other ways to continue to encourage responsible vaccination and vote no on House Bill 3063.

My family thanks you for your consideration and your service.  
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Sent from my iPhone