

Dear House Representatives,

Thanks for taking the time to consider my testimony and arguments against the passage of substance of House Bill 3063.

I am a parent and a physician and am extremely concerned about what passage of this bill would mean for my family as well as many families in our community.

Regardless of differences in opinions of efficacy of vaccines, the big issue at stake here is medical autonomy and freedom, as well as individual safety. Passage of this bill, and the subsequent holding a child's opportunity for public education hostage over this issue, would be simply wrong and unjust.

As a parent this issue hits home, as I have a child who has an immune system condition that renders him a risky candidate for vaccines, and my wife and I have made judicious decisions about the best vaccine schedule for him. His condition would not qualify under the current, extremely limited parameter for medical exemption, therefore we have opted to flex the personal exemption option. In my professional opinion, this has allowed for the most optimal and healthy development of his immune system. We have instituted, as many thousands of other families do, additional immune system support to enhance his body's ability to meaningfully fight infection.

Professionally, I have seen many cases of vaccine injury, and am thus compelled that there is not universal safety with the current vaccine schedule. Physicians and families should continue to have the option to make judicious decisions about which children may be at risk for vaccine injuries, and have the ability to make informed, educated decisions accordingly. It is simply not safe, and in the best interests of every single child to mandate the full vaccine schedule, and is certainly not right to take away their opportunity for public education.

Thank you for your consideration of my position.

Joshua Phillips