

Chairperson Salinas and Health Care Committee,

My name is Kelly Simpson, I am writing you today as a parent of four living in Newberg, OR. I am asking you to vote no on House Bill 3063. If this bill passes, it will create a profound barrier to equal access to education for Oregon students.

House Bill 3063 directly targets families' right to choice while deliberately discriminating against children based on religious beliefs and disability status. The choice to vaccinate one's own child is a very personal one made on the basis of medical status and the risks vs rewards. Vaccinations need to remain a personal medical decision made between parents and their physicians. Currently medical exemptions are almost impossible to get due to barriers placed by the Oregon Health Authority. As a nutritional counselor I have personally seen vaccine injuries in children. No one is doubting that vaccines can save lives, however, the current vaccination schedule can take a heavy toll on a child with a compromised immune system. Unfortunately we live in a time where there is a large portion of the population with compromised immune systems. Only a parent and their doctor can know if a child's immune function can withstand the CDC's recommended vaccination schedule. Due to my medical history of an autoimmune disease, my partner, myself, and our pediatrician decided to do a delayed vaccination schedule. My children have been vaccinated with DTAP and MMR. However, we used the non medical exemption so that my children don't have to receive the full dose of vaccines that I find less necessary, such as Hep B and Chickenpox.

Vaccination rates are on the rise in Oregon. If you believe in vaccines and their safety then support an informational marketing campaign. I would fully support this. However please do not take away a parents right to make a personal, informed, medical decision. My family is not financially able to home school our children. If this bill passes we will be forced to move out of Oregon. A state that I truly love and where all of our family and support system lives. If this bill passes it will truly have a devastating effect on our family's lives. Please stand with me, my family, and thousands of other Oregon Families and Oppose HB 3063

Thank you so much for your time.

Sincerely,  
Kelly Simpson

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