

Feb. 28, 2019

To the Oregon Legislature, I am writing you to inform you of my families' vehement opposition to HB 3063. As health conscious, freedom loving and responsible parents, my husband and I are shocked, saddened and very much concerned that such an invasive and coercive bill would even be introduced in Oregon, a state that claims to revere personal rights. Vaccines are not a one-size-fits-all pharmaceutical intervention, and to treat it as such, despite much scientific evidence to the contrary, is disheartening. This bill discriminates against a minority of children and, as mentioned before, is coercive. Many people cannot afford to have a parent stay home and homeschool their kids, and this bill would affect many thousands with babies, kids...some even in certain online homeschool charters. Coercion is not "choice," nor is it ethical. This will also affect schools' funding...thousands of kids out of the school system means the loss of millions of dollars to already underfunded schools.

Medical exemptions are hard to get in OR, as I understand it. Your child has to be harmed first in order to qualify for one, and even then, doctors are afraid to write them as the very narrow (and years behind on research) CDC contraindications are all they have to go on. Then, the medical exemption the doctor writes can be rejected by some person in the local health department that has zero knowledge of your child or their medical history.

In 2011, the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) contracted the Institute of Medicine (IOM) to conduct an assessment regarding vaccine safety (1). The IOM report reviewed available science with regard to the 158 most common vaccine injuries claimed to have occurred from vaccination for Varicella, Hepatitis B, Tetanus, Measles, Mumps and Rubella. Out of the 158 most common serious injuries reported to have been caused by the vaccines under review, the evidence supported a causal relationship for 18 of them, and rejected a causal relationship for 5 of them. For the remaining 135 injuries, over 86% of those reviewed, the IOM found that the science simply had not been performed. (1).

Vaccine injury is not rare, it is grossly under-reported according to the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS) and a Harvard Pilgrim study commissioned by HHS (2) where it is estimated that only between 1-10% of vaccine injuries are reported to the reporting system of VAERS. Doctors often are not trained to recognize vaccine injury, and thus dismiss it as not connected. Despite this, staggeringly, in the first 2 months of 2019, over 73 million dollars has been paid out through the private Court of Federal Claims for injuries and deaths from vaccines, with over 4 BILLION paid out since the inception of the 1986 National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act (3). What did HHS do when the Harvard Pilgrim study (ESP:VAERS) came out, showing gross underreporting, and that Harvard had a database ready to be validated to help identify and report vaccine reactions automatically, and it had tested to work amazingly well? They stopped returning phone calls.

This doesn't even touch on the fact that the FDA, CDC and the pharmaceutical companies that make vaccines have been embroiled for years in controversy and whistleblower claims of fraud, bribery, false claims, manipulation of data, and open revolving door vested interests between government and industry, not to mention billions of dollars in fines levied upon pharmaceutical companies over the years ( 4,5,6,7,8,9). Yet we are supposed to trust that these same companies, convicted of numerous counts of fraud are somehow all innocent when it comes to assessing safety and efficacy in the manufacturing of vaccines? The epidemic of fraud and deceit is an ACTUAL EMERGENCY that needs to be addressed, unlike the so-called "emergency", that is claimed in HB 3063, yet completely unfounded. Maybe addressing that honestly would help regain the public's trust.

We therefore, respectfully ask you to listen to the testimonies of those in opposition with an open mind and heart, and for those interested in further research into lack of honest vaccine safety science and policy, there is a great website put together by doctors, nurses, PhD researchers, and concerned parents who wrote several "white papers" to HHS regarding this. You can find it at [www.icandecide.org](http://www.icandecide.org) (10). please click on the white papers, and government tabs. They are fully referenced with links to peer reviewed studies, Institute of Medicine (IOM) reports, etc. within.

I have shared 10 cited sources backing up my assertions at the bottom of this testimony, but there are hundreds and thousands more. This is a complex issue, that goes beyond a few cases of a fever and a rash. Please retain the non-medical exemptions, it is the right thing to do.

Sincerely,

Erin Driskell  
Grants Pass, OR

Sources:

- 1.) <https://nap.edu/read/13164/chapter/2#3>
- 2.) [https://healthit.ahrq.gov/sites/default/files/docs/publication/r18hs017045-lazarus-final-report-2011.pdf?fbclid=IwAR1G288XoyDSD\\_ozNxonJRJT2WqBzWI4Bsh03R6HIGGuOZHCFyM9U9OnMao](https://healthit.ahrq.gov/sites/default/files/docs/publication/r18hs017045-lazarus-final-report-2011.pdf?fbclid=IwAR1G288XoyDSD_ozNxonJRJT2WqBzWI4Bsh03R6HIGGuOZHCFyM9U9OnMao)
- 3.) <https://www.hrsa.gov/sites/default/files/hrsa/vaccine-compensation/data/monthly-stats-february-2019.pdf?fbclid=IwAR3JPPGchbRPizqFWJnQIOaAcM-uEb7WG5fG8ONJkkTxQTaa7H4VGJ1J-DY>
- 4.) Congressman Bill Posey (FL) calls for subpoena of CDC Whistleblower, Dr. William Thompson on US House Floor:  
<https://www.c-span.org/video/?c4546421/rep-bill-posey-calling-investigation-cdcs-mmr-reasearch-fraud>
- 5.) ongoing whistleblower lawsuit from 2010 against MERCK in federal court:  
<https://www.reuters.com/article/health-vaccine/merck-accused-of-stonewalling-in-mumps-vaccine-antitrust-lawsuit-id-USL1N0YQ0W820150604>
- 6.) article about how MERCK's Gardasil vaccine safety trials were not designed to properly assess safety.  
<https://slate.com/health-and-science/2017/12/flaws-in-the-clinical-trials-for-gardasil-made-it-harder-to-properly-assess-safety.html>
- 7.) article about DOJ lawyers covering up testimony of their own expert witness, Dr. Andrew Zimmerman, during the 2007 Autism Omnibus hearing, where he said vaccines could trigger autism in a certain subset of children.  
<https://thehill.com/opinion/healthcare/425061-how-a-pro-vaccine-doctor-reopened-debate-about-link-to-autism>
- 8.) CDC SPIDER (whistleblowers) letter [https://usrtk.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/CDC\\_SPIDER\\_Letter-1.pdf](https://usrtk.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/CDC_SPIDER_Letter-1.pdf)
- 9.) List of pharmaceutical companies and the largest fines/ settlements:  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_largest\\_pharmaceutical\\_settlements](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_largest_pharmaceutical_settlements)
- 10.) white papers by doctors, scientists, researchers and parents outlining the lack of honest safety studies on vaccines: <https://icandecide.org>