



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

5/7/2019

RE: Vote Explanation for HB 3063

Dear Chief Clerk Sekerak,

I believe that the relationship between a person and their healthcare provider is a key component to the issue before us because when science, education and trusted relationships work together through a process, it is a winning combination. As a mom, I chose to vaccinate my two boys. I was vaccinated as a child. My husband and I felt confident in our decision and still believe that vaccines are safe and effective and can keep people healthy. Even though I made those choices as a parent, I cannot support this bill for all of Oregon's school kids. I believe all students have a right to a quality education. I believe that there are too many barriers in this bill that would result in unintended consequences to our students and families in Oregon.

Herd immunity ranges from 83%-94%, depending on the disease. The average percentage of students in all schools within my district is 96.11%. 95% of school-age students in all of Washington County are vaccinated. Of the 14 cases of Measles in Oregon in 2019, only 4 of those cases were confirmed to be linked to the Clark County outbreak and no cases were reported in Washington County.

Every student does not learn the same way or can thrive in the same learning environment. On-line school, while a good option for some students, does not serve ALL students well. Students with special education needs, specifically critical are those with Individualized Education Plans (IEP), have the right to be concerned. Our English Language Learners (ELL) may not best be served in an on-line education setting.

We need to remember that our schools are our community hubs. They provide meals to students that may not have access to hot, nutritious meals at home. They provide access to technology to students that don't have broadband or computers at home. They provide dental screenings, eye exams, hearing exams and more. Academics are taught, but students thrive in the caring, compassionate environments of our schools.

Making it a requirement that all kids be completely vaccinated to attend public, private and even a certified childcare, concerns me greatly. Education is essential to our future as a state and a nation. I do think there are ways to address some of the concerns around this bill, but I am not comfortable supporting this bill in its current form. There is academic and social/emotional learning happening in our schools. Eliminating the options for education for children that this policy will do, is not the way to advance public health trust nor will it best prepare our students for their future.

Sincerely,

Representative Janeen Sollman
House District 30

