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Hi, my name is Bailey Keenan. I am a voter in Emmett.

Please support HB 2094 for a Conscientious Exemption to state-mandated vaccinations.

As a parent, I am very concerned about the lack of safety testing for state-mandated vaccines. I feel that more emphasis needs to be placed on safety. In 1970, the National Academy of Sciences chartered the Institute of Medicine to advise the government on public health issues, and to act independently on issues of medical care, research, and education of evidence-based information.(1) Over the last fifteen years, there has been a lack of progress in the area of vaccine safety research.

Institute of Medicine Reports on Vaccine Safety:

In 2001:

"Little is known about ethylmercury (the active component in thimerosal compared to methylmercury).(2)

There are no data that elucidate how much, if any, mercury exposure from all sources contributes to the prevalence of autism, ADHD, or speech or language delay.(3)

As noted in previous IOM reports (IOM, 1994 a, b, 2001) a positive ecological correlation constitutes only weak evidence of causality, and additional research would be needed to establish a causal association.(4)

The available case reports are uninformative with respect to causality. There are no published epidemiological studies examining the potential association between thimerosal-containing vaccines and neurodevelopmental disorders. The unpublished and limited epidemiological studies provide weak and inconclusive evidence....(5)

The committee has found inadequate evidence to accept or reject a causal relationship between thimerosal-containing vaccines and neurodevelopmental disorders. Although the available evidence is indirect and incomplete, and the relationship is not established, it is biologically plausible. Because thimerosal was used in millions of vaccine doses over several decades, it is important that additional research be done to understand the nature of the risk, if any, from this exposure to thimerosal."(6)

In 2002:

"The committee concludes that the epidemiological and clinical evidence is inadequate to accept or reject a causal relationship between multiple immunizations and an increased risk of allergic disease, particularly asthma.(7)

The committee was unable to address the concern of some that repeated exposure of a susceptible or fragile child to multiple vaccines over the developmental period may also produce atypical or nonspecific immune or nervous system injury that could lead to severe disability or death. Such adverse health outcomes may not be "classical" diseases but variants of diseases...there are no epidemiological studies that address this, either in terms of exposure or outcome. That is, there is no study that compares an unvaccinated control group with children exposed to the complete immunization schedule, nor are there any studies that looked at health outcomes other than those classically defined, such as infections, allergy or diabetes. Thus, the committee recognizes with some discomfort that this report addresses only part of the overall set of concerns of some who are most wary about the safety of childhood vaccines.(8)

Research on the developing human immune system, especially in relation to vaccines, is limited."(9)

As more and more shots were added to the vaccine schedule, the IOM conceded that there is now a "dramatic increase in the complexity of immunization safety issues."(10)

As of 2008, Louis Cooper, vaccine inventor and a former president of the American Academy of Pediatrics, wrote that the total vaccine safety science research budget was a mere 0.5% of the total vaccine budget for purchase, promotion, and delivery of vaccines.(11) Clearly, the recommended guidelines urging further safety testing that were set forth by the Institute of Medicine were not met, but the number of compulsory vaccines being injected into our children continues to expand.

When asked to comment on the claim that there is no vaccine-autism link, Dr. Bernardine Healy, a former chief of the National Institutes of Health and current member of the IOM responded with, "You can't say that."

Originally, state mandates for vaccines were based on Supreme Court decision *Jacobson v. Massachusetts* during the smallpox epidemic in 1905. According to that ruling, compulsory vaccines were put in place to require adults, not children, to be vaccinated during that epidemic. This ruling does not justify mandates for up to forty-five doses of sixteen vaccinations for children, particularly in the absence of any epidemic. Thanks to the Nuremberg Code, international law protects humans from experimentation without free and

informed consent. Given the fact that vaccines have never been proven to be safe, and there is no way of knowing for sure what the effects on an individual will be, vaccines could and should be categorized as human experimentation. Even U.S. law considers vaccines to be "unavoidably unsafe."(12) To mandate vaccines without a Conscientious Exemption in place is to violate the fundamental human rights defined in the Nuremberg Code, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the U.S. Constitution, and international laws.

Some attenuated or live vaccines may even shed, meaning "...transmission of vaccine virus may occur rarely between healthy vaccinees who develop a varicella-like rash and healthy susceptible contacts." "...vaccine recipients should attempt to avoid, whenever possible, close association with susceptible high-risk individuals for up to six weeks." (13) High risk individuals include immunocompromised individuals, pregnant women, and newborn infants. This also applies to the "Flumist" vaccine. "Vaccine recipients or their parents/guardians should be informed by the health care provider that FluMist is an attenuated live virus vaccine and has the potential for transmission to immunocompromised household contacts."(14)

Thank you for your consideration,

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Citations:

1. Institute of Medicine, *Immunization Safety Review: Multiple Immunizations and Immune Dysfunction* (Inst. of Med., 2002) ix.
2. Institute of Medicine, *Immunization Safety Review: Thimerosal-Containing Vaccines and Neurodevelopmental Disorders* (Inst. of Med., 2001)82.
3. Ibid, 74.
4. Ibid, 65.
5. Ibid, 66.
6. Ibid, 75.
7. Institute of Medicine, *Immunization Safety Review: Multiple Immunizations and Immune Dysfunction* (Inst. of Med., 2002), 18.
8. Ibid, 36.
9. Ibid, 14.
10. Institute of Medicine, *Immunization Safety Review: Multiple Immunizations and Immune Dysfunction* (Inst. of Med., 2002), 2.
11. Louis Z. Cooper et al., "Protecting Public Trust in Immunization," *Pediatrics* 122:1 (2008): 149-153
12. The 1986 National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act acknowledges that vaccine injury or death may be "unavoidable even though the vaccine was properly prepared and

accompanied by proper directions and warnings." 42 U.S.C. 300aa-22(b) (1). The "unavoidable" language in the Act is from the Restatement (Second) of Torts that applies to "products which, in the present state of human knowledge, are quite incapable of being made safe." Restatement (Second) of Torts Section 402A, comment k (1965).

13. http://www.merck.com/product/usa/pi_circulars/v/varivax/varivax_pi.pdf

14. http://www.medimmune.com/pdf/products/flumist_pi.pdf