

Every morning and every night for the past 40 plus years have begun and ended with simple task. I put in or remove my hearing aids. I have been doing this since I was 18, when my progressive hearing loss made this imperative. What is not so common?

I was deafened by the mumps.

My entire family had the mumps in 1965, just two years before the vaccination for the mumps became common place. It's a rare side effect, but I estimate my family and then myself and my husband have spent well over \$100,000 in the purchase of hearing aids, adaptive equipment (phones, alarms, amplifiers) over the course of my lifetime. So I am alarmed at HB 1320 and HB 1306 which seeks to undermine the requirements of vaccines and useless study of those vaccines.

Anyone who is a student of history knows that many deadly diseases were stopped by vaccines. Smallpox, polio, measles, tetanus, the flu, and yes, mumps. Why on earth would any civilized state seek to stop this? There are procedures in place for medical exemptions. If religious exemptions are requested, I would ask that the requester seek a Biblical lifestyle, free from medical interventions.

I would challenge the current state legislators to stop wasting tax payer monies on studies that are useless and legislation that is dangerous to public health. Perhaps they would like to speak with the 1,373 North Dakotans who have died of COVID 19 since last year? How many of those families would taken a shot with the current COVID 19 vaccine that is becoming available?

I will be.

Perhaps who refuse to believe in the efficacy of vaccinations can begin saving for medical care, adaptive equipment and/or funeral expenses of those who do NOT receive vaccines.

Jan Macdonald Russell