

Senate Public Health and Welfare

SB 6

Proponent Testimony

Thursday, February 9, 2023

Dear Honorable Chairwoman Senator Gossage and Members of the Health Committee,

I strongly urge your support to SB 6.

Two years ago I read Statute 65-129b. These are rules and regulations during supposed exposures and outbreaks of infections or contagious disease.

I was very concerned that this statute gives a non-elected agency the right to quarantine adults and children based on if they are compliant in receiving vaccines and medical examinations. If not, they “may require” that an individual remain in a place of isolation or quarantine until the local health officer or the secretary determines that the individual no longer poses a substantial risk of transmitting the disease or condition to the public. This also applies to children.

This statute also implies that it “may order any sheriff, deputy sheriff or other law enforcement officer of the state or any subdivision to assist in the execution of enforcement of any order issued under this section.”

In talking to my sheriff, he said he would not enforce this statute.

The job of KDHE and local health departments are to recommend, not enforce any health related issues.

If we have learned anything in the past three years, we have learned that government overreach has done way more harm than good.

I would appreciate your support to SB 6.

Sincerely,

Pam Vetter

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Senate District 31