

February 11, 2020

Re: HB 2601

Dear Education Committee Members,

I am a Kansan, I have lived here for 15 years and am raising three children here. I support medical freedom and vaccine exemptions because I personally know adults and children who have had major health issues that were exacerbated or triggered by vaccination. Unfortunately, medical exemption is not always available to them. I want them to have access to the quality public education provided in Kansas while having the freedom to make appropriate medical decisions for themselves.

My three children attend public school and are very healthy. We also understand the science and social obligation behind vaccination policy in schools, and we've seen current Kansas policy work very well in containing outbreaks. We've had children in public schools for eight years, and never once have had an issue, even when there were outbreaks of chicken pox, measles and pertussis. Our children were unaffected and their friends stayed safe; and everyone had access to Kansas' quality public education. Without religious exemption and in adding more vaccines to the schedule, some with questionable safety records, some of our friends could be forced to choose alternate forms of education to protect their families. While there are viable options, limiting access to public education based on personal medical decisions is not something with which I am comfortable doing.

I am unable to attend the hearing on 2-13-2020, however, medical freedom is important to me. Please support Representative Heubert's bill HB 2601.

Thank you,  
Alyssa Younger  
Olathe, Kansas