

February 13, 2020

House Committee on Education; Chairman Huebert and Members of the Committee

Written testimony submitted in opposition of House Bill 2601

Dear Legislators,

Here we go again! There are some among us that are questioning issues concerning lifesaving vaccines. As a retired public-school teacher and counselor, the answers are simple. Let's trust the professionals. KDHE are the ones who should guide us. Healthcare officials from Kansas will make smart decisions about vaccines for our public-school students. Our legislators have many decisions to make – but vaccines should not be one of them.

As a parent and grandparent I have heard a variety of questions. Some were thoughtful, some were not. Remember the old one- would you trust a mechanic to do heart surgery? Easy to answer!

The questions of lifesaving vaccines are easy too. Public health care questions should be answered by public health officials. I understand that a group called Kansans for healthcare freedom want legislators to make healthcare decisions for our public-school children. In my opinion they are misguided and wrong. They seem to feed on fear and divisiveness.

Required vaccines are lifesaving! They are designed to protect our greatest resource – our children. Please leave healthcare decisions for public school children in the hands of healthcare professionals.

Sincerely,

M. Jabara