

RE: Proponent written testimony SB541 for the bill that will prevent schools from requiring covid vaccines or mask at schools

Hello Chairman Warren and distinguished Senate Committee. My name is Carrie Barth. I am a resident of Baldwin City, KS, and live in Douglas County. I am here as a proponent of this bill.

I have two high school daughters. My senior will graduate this year. Her last normal year of school, was her freshman year. My daughter that is a junior in high school, has not had a single normal high school year yet, and I want for her Senior year to be without mandates. I am asking God to bless you to pass legislation to protect our kids rights for them to have the education that we all were able to have as kids.

From the initial notice from Baldwin USD348 school lockdown in 2020 where we were 100% online only, our kids only had access to Canvas, which is a glorified electronic bulletin board, and it was up to the kids to reach out to the teacher for help. Most kids felt helpless and disconnected. Kids had to self-teach. They fell behind, which goes against our no child left behind policy.

Kansas Governor Kelly passed the Back To School Act March of 2021 that required all Kansas schools to offer an in-person five days per week learning option. Every school in the entire state of Kansas returned to five days per week continuous learning, EXCEPT for Baldwin USD348. Our school opened the doors for all five days, but remained teaching in the hybrid manner. I called the KSBOE and spoke with Commissioner Neuenswander asking questions, and Commission Neuenswander called USD348 Superintendent to confirm that this is what happened. Our kids had to suffer on multiple levels from a decision made by our administration and board. KSBOE had reported to Gov. Kelly that every single district had returned full-time, however, that was incorrect, as USD348 did not.

I want all school age kids including college and university levels need to have freedom of choice when it comes to masks and covid vaccine. I called and spoke with Washburn University about their covid policies around masks and vaccines for the upcoming school year as my daughter will be a freshman this fall, and I asked who makes those decisions...They said the president of the university. When I asked to speak with their president, they wanted to transfer me to DEI, which is their Diversity Equity & Inclusion department. This is discrimination and is unacceptable! There must be freedom of choice. Please make it illegal to mandate masks and covid vaccines for daycare, preschool, primary school, intermediate school, jr. high/middle school, high school, trade schools, junior colleges, public and private colleges and universities. There must be choice and our freedoms need to be preserved.

I have concerns with local government not listening...From multiple calls to the high school principal/superintendent/board president, emails, board meetings attended, I gathered parents and kids asking for sports and activities to be allowed, to not limit the number of attendees, I continually asked for school to be in person, and to make masks optional and to get rid of silly covid policies that keep kids out of school that are not sick and have no symptoms, and I

continued to speak up to present day as masks are still an issue. I have called and emailed Dan Partridge our Douglas County Public Health Executive Director asking for public health to actually promote public health and encourage healthy lifestyles and eating, to encourage people to have well visits, to have biometric screens to know your numbers and health risk and to know if you have low vitamin D, etc. NOTHING, just crickets from Public Health!!! Well, that is not 100% true, they will tell you to get the vaccine with no alternative options which is against informed consent laws, and if you have covid to stay home, rest, and drink fluids. That is it, and this is unacceptable! I have written and called Douglas County Commissioners and crickets, no returned emails or call. I AM TIRED OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT NOT LISTENING!!!! I have emailed every single senator and house of representatives at the state and federal level that represent Kansas and some have replied. I am asking you to uphold our Kansas and United States Constitutional rights of freedom.

The definition of "Emergency" has been abused in the state of Kansas. Douglas County Kansas Commissioners have continued the abuse of mask mandating calling it an "Emergency Mask Mandate". There is no emergency. We have seen this same abuse of "Emergency" across the globe and in other countries, with Justin Trudeau the Prime Minister of Canada using their Emergency act to be able to freeze peaceful protesters bank accounts which goes against their bill of rights, just like this would be against our bill of rights. Do you see the similarities of abuse? It has become trendy to overuse the word emergency. It is a disgrace and goes against our freedoms.

My sister told me yesterday that her kindergarten son has not had to wear a mask for three days now in Lawrence, KS. This is the first time masks for kids have not been mandated in Douglas County for kids 12 & under since the 2021 school year. My nephew has never been to school without a mask. It is sad and this should concern all of us. My nephews teacher told my sister after only these three days what a difference it made with no mask for her to be able to see her kids faces and for them to see their teachers face. She said the amount of learning they accomplished in three days was so much greater than she has seen all year, and that she realizes even more so now how much she is going to have to make up for the loss in education to catch these kids up. These mandates on children do SO MUCH HARM and it is NOT OK! It is a form of child abuse.

I am asking you to uphold our Kansas and United States Constitutional rights of freedom.

Many of us have been confused and have not understood how so much of this insanity can keep happening even though it seems so obvious that so much of what has occurred over the last few years has caused so much harm and could have been avoided. However, more and more light is shining on the truth and the truth is rising at a faster pace. The giant investment companies own more in these pharmaceutical companies and in large pharmacies like CVS are extremely powerful and have abused this power with propaganda and disinformation. Here is an article about Blackrock and Vanguard shedding light on this issue:

https://childrenshealthdefense.org/defender/corporate-vaccine-mandates-passports-blackrock-vanguard/?utm_source=salsa&eType=EmailBlastContent&eid=17810632-8427-4d51-a745-f9721a219434&fbclid=IwAR0lx_pUtZi4_T6CG1klRcy5rwystnRbyl0kdYlftS7U5IFrFqNgDJUbiA

I am asking you to uphold our Kansas and United States Constitutional rights of freedom.

I am frustrated, sad, and still keep standing up advocating for what is right and good and will continue to do so. Thank you so much for being a part of the committee hearing and listening to us. It feels good to be heard and I look forward to watching the committee take action this session.

Blessings,
Carrie Barth
Baldwin City, KS