

Madam Chairwoman and Members,

Please accept this as my request to testify on Friday November 12, 2021 for the hearing conducted by the 2021 Special Committee on Government Overreach and the Impact of Covid-19 Mandates.

I would like to ask for 22rs2356 to be revised because this bill is missing freedom.

Let's start off with an understanding that Biden's Executive Order does not actually mandate vaccination for federal contractors, but instead directs agencies to include a clause in new contracts, options, and extensions that will require compliance with forthcoming safety standards; standards that are set forth in the Safer Federal Workforce Task Force that was created by another Executive Order.

Congress has not given OSHA the green light to mandate COVID-19 vaccines; if Congress wanted a general vaccine mandate, it must pass a law establishing one.

However some will say hospitals have been requiring a flu shot as part of their employment requirements. But yet the government has never mandated a flu policy although some hospitals may have these polices and grant exemptions each year based on their own exemption criteria. Employees have the option if they dislike the policy to simply go work in another hospital however Biden completely eliminates options and competition for employees as there is nowhere to go; employer policies will force upon the employee the COVID vaccine or unemployment and welfare. So our governor now wants to condition our unemployment based on free Americans exercising their right to decline medical treatments. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, who is a public insurer, to require the vaccine is outside of their scope of authority.

Biden mandating coerced vaccination of the entire country entirely through executive action thus creating a national condition for employment is illegal. You know it and what do you come up with for us to fight it; a doctor's note and religious exemption.

This universal medical mandate can't be passed by executive action nor can it be enforced through the Safer Federal Workforce Task Force. We are a republic and this should have gone through legislature otherwise why do we need a legislative branch when the President is the only one who can pass laws.

Where is the language in bill 22rs2356 about how the Fourth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution of the United States of America states it reserves to the people, individually, the right to privacy? Or subsection 15 of the Kansas Bill of Rights that states it secures Kansas citizens, and prohibits government interference with the right of individual Kansas citizens to privacy.

Or how about reference to the case of *Washington v. Glucksberg*, where the US Supreme Court stated the Fourteenth Amendment's Due Process clause "provides heightened protection against government interference with certain fundamental rights and liberty interests" such as bodily integrity and even the "right to refuse unwanted lifesaving medical treatment.

Americans have the right to make their own health decisions. The Biden Administration wants to remove this right, remove our patient doctor relationship and allow the government to use private employers to become the decision makers of our health.

This bill needs to protect our right to personal autonomy and protect our right to personal medical choices. No one should be mandated or coerced to take the covid vaccine simply in order to work, eat or socialize. A vaccine is a medical decision, and this decision should be private and protected similar to other medical decisions. There are many vaccines not forced upon the general public as a whole to take. It is a parent's choice if their child gets HPV vaccine, it is a personal choice to get a Shingles vaccine, pneumonia and others.

Adults do not need a doctor's note to be exempt from taking the covid vaccine in order to work and earn a living. I cannot believe this language is even being considered as adults do not need a doctor's note to make their own medical decisions.

Nor do Americans across this entire state need to state religious beliefs in order to be exempt from taking the covid vaccine regardless of other vaccinations they may or may have not taken.

For 20 months we have come to you seeking help from these mandates. We can do better than legislation with language that a doctor's note is needed or state we have religious beliefs. Why is basic constitutional freedom of choice not in this bill?

Surely elected officials can come up with something better than they what is proposed as Kansans can't even get doctors to write mask exemptions for our children out of fear. I challenge you to do better.

So which phantom doctor do you expect to write employees exemptions? Physicians won't write them because they fear employer retaliation, opposing opinioned individuals seek out and file complaints with medical societies and state board of healing arts causing investigation regardless of validity of complaint. It seems you are instead suggesting Kansans start singing hymnals in the workplace to validate their religious believes.

The federal government cannot unilaterally impose a medical policy under the guise of workplace regulation as our Constitution safeguards the rights of Americans to privacy and personal autonomy. You are the Kansas Legislatures, protect the freedoms of Kansans.

There is no federal law requiring the covid vaccine so consider and add language that protects the right of personal autonomy, which includes the ability to control one's own body, to assert

bodily integrity, and to exercise self-determination. This right allows a Kansans' to make their own medical decisions free from any consequences from any government either state or federal, schools, universities, employers, retail and entertainment establishments. Add in language that states this decision is private and only the individual decides who they wish to disclose the information. There, I have just made it easier by giving you the answer you have heard over and over, just listen and take action.

Your bill does not even address the segregation and discrimination that will happen to the unvaccinated employees. We are going backwards. Why did you not include protection in the workplace for these Kansans?

Why isn't the State of Kansas suing the Biden administration over the vaccine? The covid vaccine even in a voluntary data capture reporting system, has killed more Americans than any other vaccine; the injections have caused over a million adverse reactions with a low rate of stopping the spread. Why is natural immunity not protected? When I get a prescription medication or another vaccine, the side effects, risks and reactions reviewed in consultation but yet that isn't the case with the COVID vaccine.

Challenging this bill and not being supportive of mandates does not make someone an antivaxxer. They are merely pro-freedom to make the choice best for them and their children. This bill you have proposed is really anti-freedom which is not only embarrassing it is frankly insulting.

I simply cannot believe this is your best effort and that you are doing everything to protect our health freedom. I challenge you to do better.

Laura Klingensmith