House Concurrent Resolution No. 5017

By Committee on Federal and State Affairs

3-16

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION supporting the adoption of the 1 2 COVID-19 Vaccine Bill of Rights for the purposes of defending the 3 constitutional liberties of Kansas citizens and outlining a framework 4 of best practices for state and federal agencies to develop during this 5 evolving phase of experimental vaccine administration. 6 7 WHEREAS, The Founding Fathers deemed that a Bill of Rights was 8 necessary to guard an individual's liberty against encroachments from state and federal actions, both public and private; and 9 WHEREAS, The 14th Amendment of the Constitution of the United 10 States explicitly directs states not to "deprive any person of life, liberty, 11 or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its 12 jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws"; and 13 WHEREAS, No COVID-19 vaccine has been officially approved by 14 15 the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), but the vaccines are sanctioned 16 by the FDA for distribution under an emergency use authorization; and 17 WHEREAS, Emergency use products are specifically prohibited by federal law, 21 U.S.C. § 360bbb-3, from being mandated: "Authorization 18 for medical products for use in emergencies... require... the option to 19 20 accept or refuse administration of the product"; and 21 WHEREAS, The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) 22 Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices affirmed in August 2020 23 that under an emergency use authorization, experimental vaccines shall 24 not be mandatory; and 25 WHEREAS, Universally accepted codes of medical ethics, including the Nuremberg Code and the Declaration of Helsinki, absolutely prohibit 26 27 any form of coercion to make individuals participate in a medical 28 experiment; and 29 WHEREAS, According to the Pew Research Center, approximately 40% of respondents reported that they would opt out of taking 30 experimental COVID-19 vaccines; and 31 32 WHEREAS, It is neither feasible nor safe to mandate experimental vaccination considering the large number of patients in the general 33 population who have recovered from COVID-19 and in light of the fact 34 that FDA, Pfizer and Moderna protocols treat patients who have 35 36 recovered from COVID-19 differently; and

1 WHEREAS, Public and private entities are considering mandating 2 experimental vaccinations so citizens may enjoy participating in certain 3 public activities and functions of daily American life, including 4 employment, in-person school attendance, public transportation and 5 concert performances; and

6 WHEREAS, "Vaccine passports," "digital health IDs" and such other 7 required documentations pose substantial risks to personal privacy and 8 equal treatment before the law for all Kansans and United States citizens; 9 and

WHEREAS, According to guidelines established by the CDC's
 Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, administration of
 experimental COVID-19 vaccines does not provide adequate protections
 for average Americans who are rightly concerned about potential health
 hazards associated with the inoculations; and

WHEREAS, The public is entitled to receive from their public health
 officials unbiased, transparent and easily accessible medical information
 related to all vaccines; and

WHEREAS, The emergency powers assumed by the chief executives
 of certain states, as well as municipal leaders, violated certain unalienable
 rights guaranteed under the Constitution of the United States and the Bill
 of Rights and, therefore, deserve redress; and

WHEREAS, While these legitimate grievances are pursued by the courts of various states, state lawmakers must enshrine certain rights against encroachment by decrees that are not medically or scientifically indicated, such as vaccine mandates, in order to ensure the continuity of our unalienable rights; and

WHEREAS, A COVID-19 Vaccine Bill of Rights, memorialized by
this resolution to address COVID-19 vaccine mandates, provides an
example for adoption by legislative bodies across the United States, for
recognition and upholding by all state attorney generals; and

31 WHEREAS, The major principles of the COVID-19 Vaccine Bill of 32 Rights shall include a minimum of four of the following six provisions:

- 1. No person shall be mandated, coerced, forced or pressured to take an
 experimental or "investigational" medication.
- 35 2. No physician or nurse shall be asked by an employer to promote a36 COVID-19 vaccine.
- 37 3. All persons shall determine what is in their own best medical interests
 without threat to their livelihood or freedom of movement at all
 times.

4. All persons shall be given access to independent information that will
help them determine what is in their own best medical interests. This
shall include information regarding the risk of death from contracting
COVID-19 alone, based on age or medical condition. This

information shall be from independent sources that bear no conflict of interest, unlike pharmaceutical companies and governmental or quasi-governmental institutions, which have inherent conflicts of interest. Such information shall be included but shall not be the sole source of information.

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5. Frail and elderly persons shall be entitled to a knowledgeable, independent advocate with medical training to help them determine such person's own best medical interests.

9 10 11 6. Private businesses operating within their jurisdictions shall not require any person to take medication or experimental medication; and

WHEREAS, The technical guidance for employers released by the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission in December 2020 should not be construed in a way by employers that would undermine an employee's constitutional rights; and

16 WHEREAS, State legislative bodies must practice oversight of federal17 assistance, consistent with their powers; and

18 WHEREAS, Once the COVID-19 Bill of Rights is adopted, out-of-19 state commercial vendors, including Ticketmaster, would not require 20 venue operators and organizers to mandate the presentation of proof of 21 vaccination from concertgoers and other paying customers before freely 22 entering a venue on private or public property; and

WHEREAS, Once the COVID-19 Bill of Rights is adopted, vaccinations for K-12 students and teachers would not be required without applying certain clear and consistent exemptions, among them medical and conscience clauses, otherwise, a board of education shall run the risk of forfeiting its authority for such a mandate. Notwithstanding a board of education's mandate to vaccinate their populations, legislators shall not consider it a factor in K-12 education funding; and

WHEREAS, Once the COVID-19 Bill of Rights is adopted, interstate carriers such as airlines and all forms of public transit calling for socalled "vaccine passports," as a condition of entry, would not be allowed to operate with state licensure and waivers. Furthermore, the Kansas legislature calls on federal entities such as the Federal Aviation Administration to issue new rules that shall prohibit COVID-19 vaccine mandates for all carrier crews and customers: Now, therefore,

37 Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Kansas, 38 the Senate concurring therein: That the Kansas legislature memorializes 39 the COVID-19 Vaccine Bill of Rights for the purposes of defending the 40 constitutional liberties of Kansas citizens and outlining a framework of 41 best practices for state and federal agencies to develop during this 42 evolving phase of experimental vaccine administration; and

43 *Be it further resolved:* That the Secretary of State shall send enrolled

HCR 5017

copies of this resolution to to the President of the United States, the
 Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the Majority
 Leader of the United States Senate, the Federal Aviation Administration
 Administrator, the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, the
 U.S. Secretary of Labor and the U.S. Justice Department's Civil Rights
 Division.