

MINUTES OF THE SENATE PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Michael O'Donnell at 1:33pm on Thursday, March 10, 2016, 118-N of the Capitol.

All members were present except:
Senator Susan Wagle – Excused

Committee staff present:
Randi Walters, Kansas Legislative Committee Assistant
Scott Abbott, Office of Revisor of Statutes
Iraida Orr, Legislative Research Department
Whitney Howard, Legislative Research Department
Kyle Hamilton, Office of Revisor of Statutes

Conferees appearing before the Committee:
Representative John Wilson
Kiley Klug, Private Citizen
Tiffanie Krentz, Private Citizen
Beth Hartenstein Tolentino, Private Citizen
Kimberly Stroup, Private Citizen
Nicholas L. Reinecker, Private Citizen
Eric A. Voth, M.D., FACP, Vice-President of Primary Care Stormont-Vail HealthCare
Ed Klumpp, Kansas Association of Chiefs of Police, Kansas Sheriffs Association and Kansas Peace Officers Association
Michelle Voth, Executive Director, Kansas Family Partnership

Others in attendance:
[See Attached List](#)

Hearing on: SB489 — Hemp oil treatments for specified medical conditions.

Chairperson O'Donnell opened the hearing on **SB489**. Scott Abbott, staff revisor, presented a briefing on the bill.

Representative John Wilson testified in support of **SB489** indicating that the bill could provide significant benefit to Kansas families. After presenting his testimony, Representative Wilson responded to questions from Committee members. ([Attachment 1](#))

Kiley Klug, private citizen, testified in support of **SB489** introducing her son, Owen, and sharing a brief history of his condition. Ms. Klug addressed the concern of the lack of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approval indicating that FDA approval is irrelevant due to the FDA not requiring approval of dietary supplements. ([Attachment 2](#))

CONTINUATION SHEET

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Tiffanie Krentz, private citizen, testified in support of **SB489** introducing her son, JJ, and her husband, Kevin. Ms. Krentz shared a brief history of JJ's condition. Ms. Krentz indicated that one of the benefits of a little bit of THC (tetrahydrocannabinol) with CBD (cannabidiol) is that families in Colorado that she has spoken with have been able to wean their children safely off of benzos without risking death. ([Attachment 3](#))

Beth Hartenstein Tolentino, private citizen, testified in support of **SB489** introducing her son, Nicolas, as well as other family members. Ms. Tolentino shared a brief history of Nicolas' condition. Ms. Tolentino indicated that they have been giving their son cannabidiol oil for about a year, and stated that it has cut his seizures in half. ([Attachment 4](#))

Kimberly Stroup, private citizen, testified in support of **SB489** introducing her daughter, Sydney, and sharing a brief history of her condition. Ms. Stroup indicated that all they have left is the potential for hemp oil which they're hearing around the U.S. is having great success for children like Sydney. ([Attachment 5](#))

Nicholas Reinecker, private citizen, testified support of **SB489** indicating that the time for Kansas to reform its cannabis legislation is now. Mr. Reinecker indicated that we have a situation where these parents of children are having to have their children take all kinds of pharmaceutical medications that are not doing the job, but they are being told they can't use a plant that may help them with their situation. ([Attachment 6](#))

Dr. Eric Voth, Stormont-Vail HealthCare, testified in opposition of **SB489** indicating that by passing this you would be bypassing the FDA and breaking the law. Dr. Voth addressed several concerns with the bill including the fact that there is significant concern among neuropsychiatrists and neuropsychologists that THC present with cannabidiol will in fact cause difficulties in the brain which has been clearly demonstrated in research. ([Attachment 7](#))

Ed Klumpp, Kansas Association of Chiefs of Police, Kansas Sheriffs Association and Kansas Peace Officers Association, testified in opposition of **SB489** indicating that is there is nothing in this bill that requires the CBD to be in the oil let alone a certain percentage level. Mr. Klump addressed several concerns with the bill indicating that his written testimony contains several documents with key points highlighted including letters from the American Epilepsy Society regarding this issue. ([Attachment 8](#))

Michelle Voth, Kansas Family Partnership, testified in opposition of **SB489** by addressing several issues in the bill indicating that we all have the desire for children and others to have relief from medical conditions; but we all deserve medicine that's standardized, has defined dosages and expected outcomes based on research. Ms. Voth stated that this bill does not do that. ([Attachment 9](#))

Written testimony in support of **SB489** was submitted by:
Ashley Bergman, Private Citizen ([Attachment 10](#))

Unless specifically noted, the individual remarks recorded herein have not been transcribed verbatim. Individual remarks as reported herein have not been submitted to the individuals appearing before the committee for editing or corrections.

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Ryan and Kathy Reed, Private Citizens ([Attachment 11](#))

Cherise and Justin Smith, Private Citizens ([Attachment 12](#))

Marc Bertolino, Private Citizen ([Attachment 13](#))

Written testimony in opposition of **SB489** was submitted by:

Kirk D. Thompson, Director, Kansas Bureau of Investigation (KBI) ([Attachment 14](#))

Written neutral testimony for **SB489** was submitted by:

Tatiana Y. Lin, M.A., Senior Analyst and Strategy Team Leader, Kansas Health Institute (KHI) ([Attachment 15](#))

Larrie Ann Brown and Brad Smoot, Kansas Legislative Counsel, Children's Mercy Hospital and Clinics (CMH) ([Attachment 16](#))

Jody K. Reel, PharmD, Government Affairs Committee Chair, Kansas Pharmacists Association ([Attachment 17](#))

After questions by the Committee were addressed, Chairperson O'Donnell closed the hearing on **SB489**.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:33 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 14, 2016.