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Senate Public Health & Welfare Committee Opponent for SB 6 `February 13, 2023

Chair Gossage and members of the Public Health & Welfare Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in on SB 6. My name is Tanya Dorf Brunner, and I am the Executive Director for Oral Health Kansas, Inc. We are the statewide advocacy organization dedicated to promoting the importance of lifelong dental health by shaping policy and educating the public, so Kansans know that all mouths matter.

Our organization values public health and ensuring everyone in our state is able to live healthy and productive lives. This bill's limitations on the role of public health officials is problematic, and we believe it could have the effect of causing harm to the public in the event of another unpredictable and dangerous disease outbreak, whether on the global scale or a more localized scale. The experts at KDHE and in local health departments who have health and science backgrounds understand what is best for our state when it comes to disease and the health of our residents. We urge the committee to keep Kansans safe by voting no on SB 6.

Sincerely,

Tanya Dorf Brunner Executive Director

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