

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chair Brenda Landwehr at 1:30 P.M. on February 8, 2007 in Room 526-S of the Capitol.

All members were present.

Committee staff present:

Norman Furse, Revisor's Office
Melissa Calderwood, Legislative Research
Mary Galligan, Legislative Research
Patti Magathan, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Representative Tim Owens
Dr. Howard Rodenberg, Kansas Department Health and Environment
Susan Wikle, Kansas Action for Children
Mark Desetti, Kansas National Education Association
Judy Smith, Concerned Women of America
Beatrice Swoops, Kansas Catholic Foundation
Dr. Barbara Atkinson, University of Kansas Medical Center
Dr. Roy Jenson, University of Kansas Medical Center

Others Attending:

See Attached List.

Chair Landwehr re-opened hearings on **HB2227- Requiring female students enrolling in grade six to be inoculated against the human papilloma virus.** (H.P.V.)

Testifying in opposition was **Representative Tim Owens** who questioned the cost of implementing this program. Private physicians would have to maintain an inventory of the vaccine at expense to them complicated by the shelf life of the vaccine and no replacement program from the supplier or the federal government.

Proponent **Dr. Howard Rodenberg**, Kansas Department of Health and Environment, (K.D.H.E.) provided statistics regarding incidence of H.P.V. infection and cervical cancer deaths in Kansas. Dr. Rodenberg pointed out that by preventing infection with H.P.V., this agent represents the first vaccine we've ever had against cancer. Preventing both acute infections and long-term chronic disease are key goals of public health, and the vaccine is a significant advance in our capability to improve life and health. (Attachment 1)

Due to some operational concerns, K.D.H.E. recommends that this bill begin with the 2009 school year for several reasons. First is that concerns regarding the vaccine might be addressed, and second, the approaching availability of a second supplier drug could change pricing. In addition, a delay would insure that federal funds are available to allow all Kansas children who need the vaccine to receive it without "out-of-pocket" costs.

Dr. Rodenberg concluded by stating that this bill raises issues about sexual behavior in teens. The HPV vaccine is not a ticket to risk-free sexual behavior; it does not prevent HIV, AIDS or other sexually transmitted diseases. It does, however, allow us to protect our children in a way we've never had available to us before; and keeping our children safe is what most parents care most deeply about.

Suzanne Wikle, of Kansas Action for Children, testified as a proponent of **HB 2227** stating that her organization's interest in this issue is to support public policy that is in the best interest of Kansas Children. She stated that the H.P.V. vaccine is prevention at its best. She added that mandating the vaccine will reduce health disparities, that parental awareness will increase the likelihood of vaccination, and that vaccinating early makes sense. (Attachment 2)

Proponent **Mark Desetti**, of Kansas National Education Association, stated that **HB2227** is an appropriate

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measure designed to protect the health of girls and women. Mandating a vaccine is not without precedent. Polio, Tuberculosis, Hepatitis B, and Meningitis are examples. They support this bill because it would make the vaccination available to families who could not otherwise afford it. ([Attachment 3](#))

Opponent **Judy Smith** of Concerned Women of America stated that they are not opposed to the vaccine but are opposed to a mandate. She cited some issues, including parental rights, long term support of the vaccine, expense, lack of long term data, and the fact that this vaccine doesn't eliminate 100 percent of the types of H.P.V. virus. ([Attachment 4](#))

Beatrice Swoops, Kansas Catholic Conference, testified in opposition to **HB2227**. She stated that the vaccine availability is a wonderful medical breakthrough, but she doesn't support a mandate for vaccination of 6th grade girls. Some concerns are the drug's duration of protection, the degree of protection, and the array of side effects it may cause. She also pointed out that typical vaccinations are meant to guard against illnesses which are transmitted by casual contact and to which a school child might acquire at school. H.P.V. is spread by sexual contact and a school child is not likely to be exposed to this disease at school. ([Attachment 5](#))

The following supplied written testimony to the committee:

Marla Patrick, Proponent ([Attachment 6](#))

Representative Jo Ann Pottorff, Proponent, ([Attachment 7](#))

Kansas Association of School Boards, Neutral ([Attachment 8](#))

American Cancer Society, Neutral ([Attachment 9](#))

Right To Life of Kansas, Inc. Opponent ([Attachment 10](#))

Sharon Smith, Opponent ([Attachment 11](#))

Chair Landwehr closed hearings on **HB2227** and re-opened hearings on **HCR6006 - Resolution urging the Governor and University of Kansas Medical Center to not enter any affiliation without legislative review.**

Dr. Barbara Atkinson of the University of Kansas Medical Center stated that she and Dr. Roy Jenson were there to answer questions left from Chancellor Hemenway's testimony yesterday. She presented a letter prepared by a KUMC student which addressed two of the questions that had been raised. ([Attachment 12](#))

Written testimony was provided by:

The University of Kansas Hospital, Opposed ([Attachment 13](#))

Kansas Board of Regents, Opposed ([Attachment 14](#))

University of Kansas School of Medicine, Wichita - Opposed ([Attachment 15](#))

Kansas Masonic Foundation, Opposed ([Attachment 16](#))

Kansas Academy of Family Physicians, Neutral ([Attachment 17](#))

Letter of Intent between K.U.M.C .and S.L.H .Attachment ([Attachment 18](#))

Letter of Intent between K.U.M.C .and K.U.H. Attachment ([Attachment 19](#))

Legislative Budget Committee Conclusion and Recommendations K.U.M.C, K.U. Hospital and Missouri-Based Hospitals ([Attachment 20](#))

Following Questions and Answers, Chair Landwehr closed hearings on HCR 6006.

Chair Landwehr announced that we would not be working **HB 2098** today since some committee members had to leave. Meeting was adjourned. Next meeting will be Monday, Feb. 12.