

Antoine E Wakim DDS Testimony.

Mr Chairman, Committee Memmbers. Thank you for being here and for all your service .
As a practicing dentist and a Medicaid provider for 34 years
in the great state of Kansas , City of Wichita, nothing has shocked me more than the unannounced and disappointing actions affecting dentistry and the public . On Dental day Jan 25, as I have done almost every year ,traveled to meet our legislatures and support our association, I was handed a packet and in it the SB 312 billed as a "compromise." As I read it I was shocked.
it was nothing but a Sellout A sell out of what dentistry stood for , for over 100 years and our Association for the last 8 or more years. How is it called Compromise when most dentist hate it. Complete reversal of our position.
The only explanation is if we don't do this something worse might come.

No warning , no emails , no opinion poll , nothing, I felt like many other dentist Bulldozed .

IT TAKES 4 YEARS OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING TO BECOME ADEQUATE ,
WITH THE HAND SKILLS AND JUDGEMENT,
TO SURGICALLY PREPARE TEETH FOR RESTORATIONS, FILLINGS AND PREFORMED CROWN.

We dentist know that and we know what we went through to develop our skills. There are no such thing as "Simple "procedures when it comes to cutting on a tooth with a sharp bur turning over 250,000 rpm , especially on our young wiggly population. Things can go wrong in a hurry.

There are no Shortcuts to learning this. Surgically preparing teeth for fillings and preformed crowns is a serious matter with no room for Shortcuts.

I volunteer for Children's Health Clinic and I hardly get any patients to work on, because not many are available . There is no shortage of providers and that is a fact, but we all know there is a shortage of money.

To increase participation in Medicaid either raise the reimbursement rates , offer tax breaks and tax credits from the state.

Dr. from Mead Kansas , you have his testimony, say that this bill will discourage young dentist from going there creating a decrease of access to quality care.

As I said before I am a Medicaid provider ,and that bill would help me if I thought it was the right thing to do, but it is Not.

This bill is dangerous to the public , unnecessary and will lead to Abuse Even the people that voted for it, hate it, and are wondering why all the rush and pressure.
It was swiftly crafted without general membership knowledge, and a very peculiar timing. It is bad to the public especially the underprivileged.

If you allow this you must immediately write legislation and allow PAs and Nurse Practitioners to perform surgery.

Because this is what this bill call is doing.

If you don't allow PA's to do surgery then you must vote down SB 312.

I urge you to kill this bill.

Sincerely .

Antoine E Wakim DDS PA.

House Health and Human Services

Date: _____

Attachment #: 10