

Senator Schmidt and members of the committee,

I am submitting this testimony in opposition to HB 2121 due to the unclear provisions for adult patients to be able to opt out of having their information entered into the immunization registry. I believe that this protection should be codified into the bill to protect the rights of patients that do not wish to participate in the registry. Since the data submitted to and maintained by the immunization registry consists of personally identifiable information, the consent to participate in the registry should be a separate consent from giving consent to receive the vaccine. I support the amendment that was offered by Rep. Averkamp during the time that the bill was in committee in the House¹. I have no objections to the state of Kansas maintaining and utilizing the KS WEB-IZ database to monitor vaccine uptake and assist physicians in coordinating care for patients that change from one provider to another. I understand how this registry can be an important tool to assist healthcare providers in the care of their patients. If the concerns regarding the right for patients to opt out of participation are properly addressed and clarified, I would withdraw my opposition and would support passage of this bill. Thank you for allowing me to present this written testimony and for listening to my concerns.

Erik Leon

Topeka

¹ http://www.kslegislature.org/li/b2017_18/measures/documents/fa_2017_hb2121_h_1130.pdf