

February 10, 2020

Representative Steve Huebert

Chairman of the Education Committee

Re: House Bill 2601

Representative Huebert,

I would like to thank you for introducing House Bill 2601 and say that I feel strongly that the ability of KDHE to mandate vaccines for children should be limited.

As we were raising our son my husband and I realized that his health as a child was significantly different from ours and those of our peers. We observed the same thing when observing the health of his friends. These kids, including our son, were all from homes where they had access to good nutrition and good medical care. And yet, every single one of these kids suffered from some combination of significant allergies (often reacting to over 20 to 30 different foods), asthma, mitochondrial disease, autoimmune issues, hypothyroidism, eczema and learning disabilities. Sadly, this is not unique to our experience. The health of the children in our country is not good and does not appear to be improving.

I believe that vaccines play a role in this situation. I find it extremely distressing that vaccines are being mandated for school attendance when we do not have concrete answers for why the health of our children has declined so rapidly.

I also find it unacceptable that vaccines would be mandated and forced upon any citizen of Kansas while knowing that the vaccine manufacturers and the doctors who administer the vaccines have no liability for injury from the vaccine. We know that vaccines carry risk, the vaccine manufacturers tell us that in the insert. We also know that the follow up safety testing requirements that Congress required in 1986 when they removed liability have never been done. I feel strongly that where there is risk to an individual, there must be choice.

I applaud you, Representative Averkamp and Representative Jacobs for the tremendous efforts you have put forth on this issue. It is the right thing to do and is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Michelle Ruckersfeldt

Overland Park, Kansas