



2/12/2020

Honorable Mr. Chairman and Committee Members,

RE: HB2601

My name is Ronda Hutchinson I have been a Kansas Registered Nurse for 25 years, and a School Nurse for 15 years.

I oppose HB 2601 for the following two reasons:

First, it is important that the list of required vaccines remain in the current regulation process rather than being individually listed as statutes due to the ability to respond to the changes in the ACIP (Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices) recommendations time line.

If vaccines were listed in statute, the ability to respond to changes in a timely manner would be impaired due to the limits of the legislative process for introducing and approving bills.

Second, the list of immunizations listed in this bill does not include all of the ones currently required by our state that were recommended by the ACIP last year. The meningococcal vaccine has been left out. The ACIP includes members who have expertise in vaccinology, immunology, pediatrics, internal medicine, nursing, family medicine, virology, public health, infectious diseases, and/or preventive medicine. These experts have historically provided immunization guidance that has decreased mortality and morbidity by lessening and in some cases eradicating disease in our country.

The **process** of the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) implementing the ACIP recommendations has historically been effective and efficient.

I strongly urge you to oppose HB2601 in order to keep the process timely as well as keeping immunization regulation in the hands of healthcare professionals.

Sincerely,

Ronda Hutchinson, BSN, RN
KSNO President Elect