



TESTIMONY IN FAVOR OF KMS MEDICAL LIABILITY AMENDMENT

May 11, 2020

Chairman Fred Patton and Members of the House Judiciary Committee,

The Kansas Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics (KAAP) represents over 90% of the practicing pediatricians in the state. The KAAP has the fundamental goal that all children and adolescents in Kansas have the opportunity to grow safe and strong. It is with this goal in mind that we want to share our support of the proposed amendment to SB 493 that provides protection to health care providers from civil damages, administrative fines due to care provided as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

These are unprecedented times and our health care workers have been asked to risk their lives while learning how to best respond to the health needs of patients. It is important to show support for the tireless work done by Kansas health care workers during the COVID-19 public health emergency so the health care safety net remains strong enough to provide access to care for children who need it. The protections in the proposed amendment will help mitigate in some small measure the pandemic's massive financial impact on the business operations of our members and their health care businesses. We will be recovering for years in terms of health care, and the financial stability of our businesses. This one measure provides some limited protection that will help that process. We urge you to support the amendment.

Respectfully submitted,

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Legislative Coordinator
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