

February 25, 2021

Chairman Olson and Member of the Senate Commerce Committee,

I am submitting this testimony in opposition to SB 213 as a recently retired Kansas pediatric nurse of over 45 years.

Vaccine preventable diseases can be transmitted from patients to healthcare workers and visa versa. Based on years of experience, I have seen this happen. Protecting patients and employees is an obligation that, based on science and subsequent evidence, should not be prohibited based on misinformation regarding vaccines. It is critical that employers maintain the ability to require vaccines as a condition of employment. Requiring vaccines is essential in protecting those most vulnerable who cannot receive vaccines, either because they are too young or their condition or disease process prohibits it.

Thank you,
Cindy Olson Burgess, RN