

From: [Robyn Essex](#)
To: [Diane Bernheimer](#)
Subject: Additional proponent testimony, for House Bill 2613
Date: Wednesday, February 7, 2024 10:34:20 PM

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We the people, come to you as parents, teachers, PTO Presidents, Doctors, Lawyers, and voting citizens of the State of Kansas in SUPPORT of House Bill, 2613.

We agree with House Bill 2613 proposal of a modern-day D.A.R.E. Program, and we strongly urge the State of Kansas to address our growing concerns regarding the steep rise of drug use, drug addiction, and drug-related deaths of our children.

With the neighboring states legalization of marijuana, we feel called to bring forth awareness and education to our children and families with immediate action and education.

It's clear the marijuana industry has targeted our children through the branding and use of colorful wrapping, childlike fonts, and by marketing edibles with packaging to mimic popular candy. Many families are unaware of the newest vapes, drugs, or marijuana edibles, leaving our children at a higher risk of drug use, and parents and caregivers at a loss.

Education and Awareness developed with love and care, and delivered in a safe environment with a trusted adult is what we so desperately need.

Please consider this House Bill as a top priority for the future of Kansas children.

Respectfully,

Mrs. Rene Barton
Dr. Matthew Barton
Mr. River Barton
Mrs. Ling Werner
Mrs. Ransley Eberhart
Mrs. Sarah Chipko
Mr. Brian Brewer
Mrs. Christine Brewer