

SESSION OF 2009

**SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON
HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 6019**

As Recommended by House Committee on
Health and Human Services

Brief*

HR 6019 urges the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to use caution in approving new vaccines such as Gardasil which has had a number of health problems including some deaths associated with the use of the vaccine. The resolution makes a number of findings:

- The genital human papillomavirus (HPV) is the most common sexually transmitted infection with more than 40 different strains of the virus;
- The vaccine Gardasil was approved by the FDA for use in June 2006, as a vaccine to prevent the transmission of some strains of HPV which can cause cervical cancer;
- The approval of Gardasil was much hyped, with Merck claiming that it had the potential to eventually eliminate most cervical cancers;
- The FDA erred in its rush to approve Gardasil, and did not study the vaccine's possible side effects thoroughly;
- Following its approval, the Centers for Disease Control [and Prevention] recommended that all young girls between the ages of 11 and 12 receive the Gardasil vaccine;
- Recently, 20 states have pushed for federal mandates to make Gardasil mandatory for sixth grade girls;

*Supplemental notes are prepared by the Legislative Research Department and do not express legislative intent. The supplemental note and fiscal note for this bill may be accessed on the Internet at <http://www.kslegislature.org>

- Since its approval, there have been over 3,400 complaints of adverse reactions to the Gardasil vaccine, and there could have been as many as eight deaths attributable to Gardasil; and
- Side effects that have been reported include Bells Palsy, Guillain-Barre Syndrome, seizures, miscarriages and even death.

The resolution further states that it is resolved by the Kansas House of Representatives and the State of Kansas that the FDA only approve new vaccines and drugs that have been adequately studied to insure the safety of the public. Enrolled copies of this resolution are to be directed to the President of the U.S. Senate, the Speaker of the U.S. House, the Kansas Congressional delegation, and the Office of the Commissioner of the U.S. FDA.

Background

The resolution was introduced by the House Committee on Federal and State Affairs.

During the 2007 Session, the House Committee on Health and Human Services held a hearing on 2007 HB 2227, a bill that would have required female students entering the sixth grade to present documentation from a physician or local health department to the school board certifying that she has received the human papilloma virus (HPV) inoculation [Gardasil]. The bill would have allowed physicians to provide exemptions for any student if the inoculation could endanger the life of the student or if the inoculation is against the student's religion. The Kansas Department of Health and Environment would have been required to provide information that the school districts would then use to inform parents and guardians of the relationship between HPV and cervical cancer. The bill died in Committee at the conclusion of the 2008 Session.