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Director of Government Relations & Legislative Affairs  
Oral Testimony – Opponent  
Senate Committee on Public Health and Welfare  
Senate Bill 390  
February 14, 2024

Chairperson Gossage, members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in opposition to SB 390.

Kansas NEA believes that vaccinations are essential medical tools in preventing infectious diseases. Kansas NEA also believes that guidance from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, the American Academy of Pediatrics, or the Center for Disease Control should be followed by students, parents/guardians, educators, and staff. SB 390 would open the door for individuals to disregard such guidance.

By creating broad opt-out provisions for vaccinations expectations and requirements, SB 390 prevents private sector employers from providing safe and healthy workplaces for their employees. By potentially preventing the enforcement of childhood immunization requirements in schools, SB 390 would also prevent schools from providing safe and healthy workplaces for educators and students as well.

Additionally, SB 390 would be a huge step backward in the accepted practices that have been essential in the progress of eradicating childhood diseases like measles, mumps, polio, and other vaccine-preventable diseases.

We urge the committee to oppose SB 390