

02/13/2024

I am a PROPONENT of Senate Bill 391

Chairman Gossage and Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee Members:

Before I read SB 391, I read the letter sent to the committee by Mr. Adam C. Proffitt, Director of the Budget. In reading his letter, I thought to myself, I don't think I will be able to support this bill based off of his description. Then I read the actual bill and as you can see, I am a proponent of the bill.

If you honestly read the bill especially in the light of the past three years it is very understandable why it was revised and I feel the changes are very reasonable.

I will simply point out words that were changed. Words like order, must, require, control, enforcement, execution, empower to prohibit, and take action was changed to recommend, shall, further manage, and make policies. The substance of the bill was not changed which can be seen by reading Sec 9.KSA 203 Supp 65-202 5(d) which says "such office ... shall make an investigation of each case of small pox, diphtheria, .... and such other acute infections, contagions, or communicable diseases as may be required and shall use all medically necessary and reasonable measures (instead of all known measures) to prevent the spread of any such infectious, contagious or communicable diseases. The substance of the bill has not changed.

Since social workers, school teachers and school administrators, are not medical professionals it makes perfect sense that they should not be asked to report possible infectious cases as this is the school nurses' domain.

Those in support of this bill are in no way suggesting that infectious cases not be managed in our state but the severe consequences experienced by Kansas' citizens from harmful "public health" polices over the last three years, which had no scientific basis yet were "ordered", and "required" should never happen again. This bill would ensure that infectious diseases can be managed yet, citizens' rights will be preserved.

Lastly, the removal of the section regarding the use of the sheriff, or deputy sheriff or other law enforcement officers of the state to assist in the "execution" or "enforcement" of ANY orders issued under this bill MUST be removed if nothing else is changed in this bill. Sheriff's have testified before this committee in the past few years that they are unwilling to participate in these actions so you must be compelled to remove this section for that reason alone.

As duty bound representatives of the Kansas citizens in your district, I hope you can vote to appropriately balance the needs of managing infectious diseases in our state with the need to protect those same citizens from the misuse of harmful public health policies. I can promise you that another "pandemic" or "health care emergency" is just around the corner. The need to address these concerns have been brought before this committee for the last three years. My hope is that you will not only pass this bill out of your committee but that you will encourage your colleagues in the House of Representatives to allow this bill and other medical freedom bills to be heard in committee.

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Overland Park, Johnson County

Kansas Senate District: 8