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Testimony to the House Education Committee

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BILL NUMBER: HB 2420

PROPONENT, OPPONENT, or NEUTRAL: OPPONENT

ORAL or WRITTEN ONLY TESTIMONY: WRITTEN ONLY

Chair and members of the committee,

Thank you for considering my opposition to HB 2420 and its proposed penalties to school district employees who may violate the provision.

We already have a law in Kansas (K.S.A. 72-6287) requiring parental consent for ongoing behavioral health treatment. The current law provides clear guidance while also allowing staff to support immediate needs of students. The proposed law is redundant and not clear. Advocates for students and staff are concerned about unintended consequences such as unnecessary delays in essential care and the chilling effect potential fines can have on the ability of parents and staff being able to work together to keep students safe.

Thank you for your consideration.

Melinda Parks

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