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I support SB-19.

Personal Background

I am happily married and have 4 children, all of which are currently in grade school and high school.

I am a devout Catholic and send my children to Catholic Diocese of Wichita schools.

I have been a software engineer at NetApp in Wichita KS for the last 18 years.

What gives me credibility on this issue?

First and foremost, I have credibility because I am a father.

Secondarily, because vaccination laws are currently and have in the past adversely my family, friends and co-workers.

Firmly held convictions regarding this bill

- I. No citizen should be denied admission to a school (public or private) solely based upon vaccination status.
- II. No citizen should have their employment terminated solely based upon vaccination status.
- III. No citizen should be denied a religious exemption for vaccination. The granting of religious exemption should not be predicated upon the religious denomination that the citizen belongs to.

Personal Testimony

1. Kansas Vaccination Laws/Policies are currently impacting my family

Currently, I send several of my children to schools operated by the Catholic Diocese of Wichita.

St Mary Catholic School (Derby KS)

Bishop Carroll Catholic High School (Wichita KS)

At least one of my children is scheduled to receive a vaccine before the start of school year beginning Fall 2025.

My wife and I have made the decision to refrain from subjecting our children to any more vaccinations.

This decision has been arrived at carefully and prayerfully through much religious and scientific research.

We reject further vaccination on religious, moral, ethical and scientific grounds.

According to Catholic Diocese of Wichita policy, those who fail to comply with the vaccination schedule outlined by the state of Kansas may not attend Diocesan schools.

The Catholic Diocese of Wichita refuses to grant Catholics religious exemptions for vaccinations.

The Diocese uses the unfortunate wording contained in KSA [72-6262](#) as its basis to refuse religious exemption to its own members.

If the wording of KSA 72-6262 were changed to the following it might eliminate the legal standing for the Diocese to deny religious exemptions:

(2) a written statement signed by one parent or guardian that the child ~~and/or the child's parent(s) hold is an adherent of a religious denomination whose religious teachings~~ **and/or the child's parent(s) hold** ~~is an adherent of a religious denomination whose religious teachings~~ **beliefs which** are opposed to such tests or inoculations.

The Catholic Diocese of Wichita will only grant medical exemptions signed by a doctor.

It is very difficult to find a doctor who will sign a medical exemption for vaccinations even if you have another child in the family who has suffered vaccine injury. I have heard first hand accounts of this.

Thus, I am left with the decision to either subject my child to a vaccine which I object to on multiple grounds OR to send them to a different school or start home schooling.

2. Job loss due to vaccine requirements

During the infamous COVID epidemic, my employer NetApp (Wichita KS) required all employees to be vaccinated with the COVID "vaccine".

NetApp allowed for religious exemptions, but the exemptions were intensely scrutinized.

I needed to get a signed religious exemption letter from my parish priest.

The Catholic Diocese of Wichita disallowed any religious exemptions to be given.

Various people throughout Wichita and indeed across the country lost their jobs because they were unable to provide sufficient religious exemption documentation.

Eventually, the Diocese caved and allowed for the signing of religious exemption letters by parish priests.

But it was already too late for some.

I was fortunate to have had a long enough window of time to get my religious exemption documentation in order and signed before I was terminated.

3. Public School Policy and removal of religious requirement for exemption

I can attest that at least some public schools in Kansas DO grant religious exemptions to vaccination to anyone by simply filling out a religious exemption statement with no other questions asked.

Included in the Appendix – Item #2 is the religious exemption form for Derby Public schools.

Notice the wording, “the immunization of this student would be contrary to the religious beliefs of this child.”

The above is much better wording than the current wording of KSA [72-6262](#)

It would be even better to remove the religious requirement for exemption altogether:

“The child and/or their parent(s)/guardian(s) conscientiously object to immunization. Therefore, this child...”

4. Impact of current laws and vaccinations in general to those around us

There are other families who were forced to stop attending Diocesan schools due to the vaccination policy.

I know of Kansans who had a difficult time finding doctors to sign off on medical exemptions despite the presence of real and credible medical issues and prior vaccine injuries.

I know of Kansans who believe that their children developed autism like symptoms/behaviors after vaccination.

Many studies have shown this to be a very real possibility with our current batteries of childhood vaccinations. See Appendix - Item 1.

One has to wonder if it could be linked to the sheer number of doses being administered which has nearly tripled in recent decades.

If one followed current CDC guidelines one would get 69 doses of 16 different vaccines from age 0 to 18. For those of us who are older, like myself, it was more like 25 total doses from age 0 to 18.

The overall point of this section is that there are people all around us who are being negatively impacted by the current laws.

Appendix

1.

Article on study published Jan 23 2025 in *Science, Public Health Policy and the Law*:

<https://healthfreedomdefense.org/vaccination-and-neurodevelopmental-disorders-a-study-of-nine-year-old-children-enrolled-in-medicaid/>

Overall, the study found that 27.8% of vaccinated children were diagnosed with at least one NDD, compared to 11% of unvaccinated children who received an NDD diagnosis. The difference in these percentages leads to the authors' observation that vaccinated children were significantly—[212%](#)— more likely than unvaccinated children to be diagnosed with at least one NDD.

2.

Derby Public Schools - Religious Exemption Certification Form

Derby Public Schools
RELIGIOUS EXEMPTION CERTIFICATION FORM

Children with religious exemptions shall be permitted to attend school except in the case of a vaccine-preventable disease outbreak in the school. All susceptible students will be excluded from school based on public health officials' determination that the school is a primary site for disease exposure, transmission and spread into the community. Students excluded from school for this reason will not be able to return to school until (1) the danger of the outbreak has passed as determined by public health officials, (2) the student becomes ill with the disease and completely recovers, or (3) the student is immunized. For example, for measles the complete incubation period is 18 days from the onset of symptoms for the last case in the community. Outbreaks like measles may last for several months.

According to Kansas Statute, KSA 72-6262, no child may be admitted to school without proof of immunization or a statement of exemption. Parents or guardians seeking an exemption on the basis that immunizations would be contrary to religious beliefs of the child should complete the following statement and return it to the school nurse.

To Whom It May Concern:

As the parent(s)/guardian(s) of _____
(Name of student)

I/we hereby assert that the immunization of this student would be contrary to the religious beliefs of this child. Therefore, this child shall be exempt from the required immunizations under Section KSA 72-6262 of the Kansas Statutes and shall be permitted to attend school except in the case of a vaccine-preventable disease outbreak in the school.

_____/_____
Signature of Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Date

_____/_____
Signature of Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Date

Address

Telephone

Updated 07/2019

