Feb 11th, 2020

Chairman Steve Huebert 300 SW 10th St., Room 286-N Topeka, KS 66612

Re: HB-2601

Dear Chairman Huebert:

This letter may be a bit different than most of those you will receive in regards to amending HB-72-6262 today. Many of the letters will be from those who believe vaccines have caused more harm than good over the years. I do not fall into that group. I am pro-vaccine in the sense that I believe vaccines likely should be credited with far more good than bad over the years.

With that being said, I don't believe this issue should really have anything to do with the perception of safety that a vocal minority in our country and our state seem to emphasize so much with each new regulation. We live in the United States of America, the last bastion of freedom and liberty. We live in Kansas, one of the states that has traditionally been more supportive of freedom and liberty than of the perception of safety.

But I'm concerned because I see that emphasis on freedom and liberty slipping away. More and more a vocal minority will shout out, "this will make us safer, we need the government to enforce it so we can all be safe!!!". The silent majority says nothing because most of them feel that particular issue doesn't really affect them that much so why fight it?

But we must fight it. Month after month we cede to the government the right to make this decision or that decision for us. That was not the original intent of our government. The original intent was to PROTECT the basic rights of the people, not to remove them. And there are few more fundamental rights than to make a decision about whether or not something can be put into your own body.

If we ignore the fundamental reason our government exists for month after month, if we focus on the perception of safety rather than freedom and liberty, eventually we will have lost our freedom and liberty as well as our safety because ultimately, they go hand in hand.

Chairman Huebert, I support HB 2601 because it prevents the few from mandating new vaccines on the many without just cause. What we have now is nothing less than tyranny. New vaccines can be added to the mandatory list on a whim and the families of hundreds of thousands of students are affected while having no say in the matter.

Thank you for your time and your consideration of this important issue.

Sincerely

Daniel Leebrick Atwood, KS

Daniel Leebrick