



March 15, 2017

Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee

Testimony in Support of House Bill 2030

Chairwoman Schmidt and Members of the Committee,

The Kansas Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics (KAAP) represents over 90 percent of the practicing pediatricians in the state. The KAAP has the fundamental goal that all children in Kansas have the opportunity to grow safe and strong. We support House Bill 2030, particularly as the House Committee amended the bill. We urge the committee to support the bill and advance it to the full Senate.

- KAAP initially had concerns about the any age limit reduction below 18 years of age but believe 12 years of age is the bare minimum that State should reduce the age. Do not reverse the House Committee's action.
- Additionally, KAAP continues to retain some reservations about House Bill 2030 because pharmacy beneficiaries of this bill would not give vaccines to Medicaid-VFC and low-income kids. As a matter of public policy, KAAP does not favor essentially bifurcating access to healthcare to those that can pay or have insurance and those children who cannot.
- The VFC process involves a lot more paper work and is more time consuming, reducing an already thin profit margin. If the State's public policy interest is to improve immunization rates then there should be consideration to increase rates for all children.
- All pharmacies need to be part of the state immunization registry.

Despite these concerns, we do support the bill as an improvement over the current situation solely because it does in a limited way increase access to immunizations. Thank you for your time and attention. We welcome any questions you might have and are happy to serve as your resource on pediatric issues.

Submitted by
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