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Honorable Beverly Gossage
Chair, Senate Committee on Public Health and Welfare
Kansas Capitol, Room 548 South

Re: Oral/Written PROPONENT testimony, SB 391

Dear Chairwoman Gossage and Committee:

My name is William Mize and I operate a law practice in Overland Park. I am writing to urge your support for passage of SB 391.

Through the Covid pandemic we had the opportunity to view the reaction of the health agencies, most prominently our KDHE, to a crisis. We saw the inability of our businesses, schools and churches to function based upon the edicts of our health agencies that claimed to be acting in the best interests of the people. Unfortunately, the unelected health officials in the state chose to pursue policies that were not based upon objective standards. Remember the health officials' arguments that if you were not vaccinated you were more likely to spread the virus, or that natural immunity is not as good as vaccine immunity, or that masks will stop the spread of the virus, or that you must stay six feet apart to avoid the spread of disease or that treatments that included drugs like Ivermectin would harm the patient?

The health officials have shown that they cannot be relied upon to "follow the science" and they should certainly not be given the ability to mandate the rules for virtually every facet of society in the name of an emergency. SB 391 welcomes the recommendations of the KDHE as to health considerations, but we should limit the ultimate power to make the rules in such situation to our elected representatives. This is the way it should be, especially given the history of these agencies.

For the foregoing reasons, I ask you to pass SB 390 favorably out of this committee.

Respectfully,
William D. Mize
Overland Park, Kansas