

Andrea Nielson Lackey
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Greetings,

My name is Andrea Nielson Lackey. I am a voter in House district 104 and Senate district 34. Please support HB 2094 for a Conscientious Exemption to state-mandated vaccinations. This bill represents all people by protecting parental rights, informed consent, and freedom of conscience. Please be aware that there are two exemptions in Kansas right now, medical and religious. However, the medical exemption is difficult to obtain for many people and often challenged. The religious exemption requires individuals and their parents to belong to a religious denomination as defined by the state of Kansas. Such a requirement has been found unconstitutional in other states. Also note, vaccinations are not without risks. They can run the gamut of minor to severely debilitating to death. Vaccine manufacturers and physicians bear NO LIABILITY for these vaccine induced injuries and deaths as stipulated by the U.S. National Vaccine Injury Compensation Act of 1986. This means, the parent will bear the responsibility in all areas for that child including health care costs incurred to the family to care for the injured child. It can often be financially devastating to the family. It is unthinkable to me that parents are not given more rights in this area of child care. Whether or not a parent vaccinates their child should be up to them....if there is no accountability on a mandated medical procedure it only makes sense to leave that decision up to the parent. This primarily is my view point of a mother of two children but also as a health care provider. I am faced with these questions regularly, especially from parents who do have a child or children that have suffered a vaccine induced injury or reaction. Having a conscientious exemption available is the only way that I see to provide complete rights and freedoms to all people. Please note, 19 states already offer a conscientious exemption and there has been no relationship identified between the reported exemptions and reported cases of diseases in these states. Also, vaccination rates remain high in these states as well. I can assure you that this matter is extremely important, especially to the children and parents that have had to abide by a very imbalanced and challenging system. Every day is another day that parents have to defend their rights to protect the health and wellbeing of their child/children. Supporting a conscientious exemption would add some "balance" to a very "imbalanced" regulation. Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.

Respectfully,
Andrea Nielson Lackey DC