

February 11, 2020

Re: HB 2601

Dear Education Committee:

Hello. My name is Jerlynn Johnston. I have been a Registered Nurse for 14 years. I am writing because I would like to address an issue that is very important to myself and my family. My husband Jarrod and I have been blessed with two children, and both of them have had reactions to vaccinations. My daughter, Jalarie, was 21 months old the day she was diagnosed with Type I Diabetes Mellitus, just 4 weeks after having the DTAP vaccination, in which she had a systemic reaction to – including fever and body rash. This diagnosis changed our lives FOREVER. Not only was she diagnosed with this condition, she was later diagnosed with two more auto-immune conditions -- hypothyroidism and celiac disease. She's 11 years old now and just to put into perspective how our lives are different from others, we are constantly worried about our daughter in ways some wouldn't understand. We don't get much restful sleep as we are up multiple times in the night checking on her blood sugars, dosing her with insulin if she's high and feeding her or backing her insulin off if she's low. Her endocrinologist informed us that the term "brittle diabetic" isn't used anymore but he would classify her as one. It costs us \$600-\$800/month to keep up with her conditions demands, that's not counting our monthly insurance premiums either, and we don't qualify for any assistance. When she was first diagnosed in 2010, it cost us \$132/vial of insulin, we now pay \$290/vial, our insurance plan has not changed but our insulin has over doubled. Our monthly insurance premiums at the time she was diagnosed were around \$300/month, now we pay \$975/month. She was robbed of her childhood and the ability to have a "normal" life at such a young age. We try to be a very positive family and handle the situations life has thrown at us with our heads held high, however, we have noticed her expressing anger, bitterness, and she has even mentioned how much she hates her life because of her condition. It breaks my heart as a mother to know I can't "fix" this for her and I truly believe she wouldn't be dealing with this if I would have listened to my gut and not vaccinated her years ago. We have no history of Type I Diabetes in our family. This is a condition that we didn't see coming.

Our son, Jayton, received his vaccine series on December 12, 2013. On January 15, 2014 after I picked him up from daycare, something felt off with him, he wasn't acting quite right, his color was a little off and my gut was SCREAMING at me to take him to the ER. I informed my husband and he thought I was crazy as he informed me that "he doesn't look sick to me." I had notified the hospital that we were coming and we were told "well, we're pretty busy, I'm not sure when we will get to you." I informed the nurse that it didn't matter, we were coming anyway. Once we were in the ER, it did appear at first that his condition wasn't that bad and maybe I was overreacting. However, within an hour of arrival, my 8 month old baby started crashing, his colored worsened, his breathing worsened, and I remember telling my husband that I was going to have to start bagging him if they didn't do something quick. Just then a nurse poked her head in our room, took one look at our son and all staff started tending to his needs. He was hospitalized for 5 days, had an IV in his head, and was unable to be off oxygen without his oxygen sats decreasing. The physicians couldn't figure out what was wrong with him, as all tests came back negative, so they decided to diagnosis him with pneumonia. I know in my heart he would not be here

today if I hadn't been persistent and took him to be seen. He would have most likely been another SIDS statistic had we not been proactive with him. My son has since been diagnosed with a couple autoimmune diseases including, Reynaud's Phenomenon and eosinophilic gastroenteritis, he also went through some urinary issues, and has been experiencing some behavioral issues that resemble behaviors on the Autism Spectrum. Unfortunately, he struggles in school due to his behaviors and for a behavioral analysis the wait list is 8-9 months to see about getting a confirmed diagnosis.

As parents, we try to do what's best for our children. Please consider our story, as there are thousands of families that have similar stories to share. Our family asks that you support the proposed legislation that will limit the power of the KDHE to mandate additional vaccines for children. Protect our right to choice and help us continue protecting our babies.

Thank you,

Jerlynn Johnston

Concordia, KS

Just a few things to consider:

1. Why do you think the CDC has not performed the study on vaccinated children versus unvaccinated children?
2. Why would the movie Vaxxed be removed from all streaming devices but the series Pandemic is allowed to stay?
3. Why does Facebook only censor and remove "anti-vaxx" content?
4. Why do we not have a choice on whether we want vaccinations or not? "our body, our choice"
5. How do you explain the fact that there has been over \$4 BILLION paid out in vaccination injuries?
6. Why is there over 79 vaccinations (and growing) that children receive from birth to age 18?(this figure has increased substantially since 1986 when Reagan signed the childhood vaccination injury act that established a federal no-fault system to compensate victims of injury caused by mandated vaccines)
7. Why do children have more health issues, cancer, diabetes, behavioral issues, auto-immune, etc now than they did years ago?
8. Could SIDS potentially be linked as a reaction to vaccinations versus an unknown cause?
9. Why did the company Vaccine Division President, Julie Gerberding, of Merck (manufactures vaccinations) sell over half of her Merck shares in January 2020, just after the study came out that linked cancer to the Gardasil vaccination?
10. Do you know of any medication, or any substance for that matter, in this world that absolutely EVERYONE can take without causing adverse reactions? (Keep in mind, there are individuals allergic to water, exercise, sunlight, etc. and these are all natural items without any additional risks or fillers)