

Proponent Testimony SB 391 13 February 2024 Public Health Welfare

Chairperson Gossage, Vice-Chair Erickson, Ranking Minority Pat-Pettey, and Esteemed Members of the Senate Federal and State Affairs Committee,

Thank you for your work in the Kansas Senate. Today, I write in support of SB 391 which would protect Kansans from overreach as it relates to their health, regulating the activities of the Secretary of Health and Environment which is paramount during a health crisis such as during the Covid emergency.

At a bare minimum, I strongly support this bill to provide Public Health Outreach Services to increase the individual's awareness of preventive health services and to repeal statutes relating to the secretary's authority to quarantine individuals and impose associated penalties. The personal trauma that many of us experienced during Covid has greatly shaped the way many Kansans feel about public health, patients' rights, the government mandates on health policies and more. Now more than ever it is critical to protect the patient-physician relationship which is key to restoring public and personal trust in medical care and as such no mandates or penalties as such should ever be imposed by a governance that assumes a one-size-fits-all approach. Jab or no job never again.

Thank you for your efforts, and I respectfully request you support SB 391!

Kay Shirley District 11