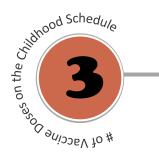
The KS Childhood Vaccine Schedule Approval Process

Do you know how vaccines are added to the required childhood schedule in Kansas? Do you know who is responsible for making those decisions? Do you know what happened in 2019?

The Dawn of Unlimited Power for the KDHE



2017

In 2017, the Secretary of Health is requested to add the meningitis vaccine to the required schedule for Kansas children.

After careful consideration, she determines the vaccine is not needed and rejects the request.

Meningitis and Hep A are Added After a Series of Complicated Events

In 2019, without any new evidence of need, the new incoming Secretary of Health makes the decision to add the meningitis vaccine to the required schedule, along with hepatitis A. In keeping with the 1961 statute, this is not put up for legislative vote.



1961

In 1961, a new statute is enacted, authorizing the governor to thereby hand over the power to alter the required childhood vaccine schedule to the Secretary of Health of the KDHE (Kansas Department of Health and Environment).

Meningitis Gets Rejected... TWICE

Upset by the initial refusal by the Secretary of Health, vaccine proponents take their recommendation to the legislature.

After significant public opposition,

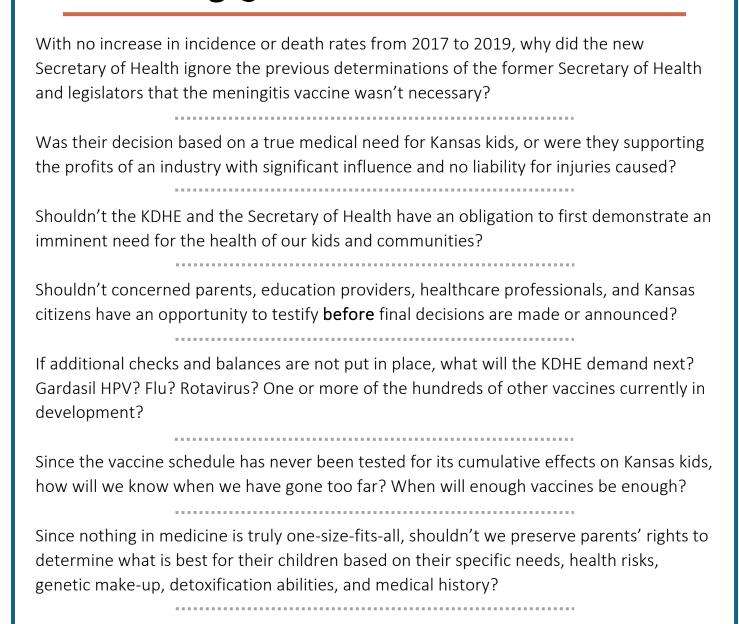
HB 2205 is defeated there also.

2019

This decision follows a series of confusing and unsettling events:

- (1) February: the KDHE and school boards begin announcing the new hepatitis A and meningitis requirements.
- **(2) Feb 28**th: notice is posted for a public hearing on March 11th (with only 11 days' prior notice).
- (3) March 11th: the first hearing is conducted.
- **(4) April 25th:** a new public hearing is posted for June 27th (with the required 60 days' notice).
- **(5) June 27th:** the 2nd public hearing takes place.
- **(6) July 18**th: despite significant public opposition, hep A and meningitis requirements are published to the KS Register.

Big Questions Unanswered



Should the KDHE's Secretary of Health Have Sole Decision-Making Authority to Make Changes to the Vaccine Schedule?

Each vaccine added to the required schedule brings additional risk of injury and side

effects. Shouldn't these decisions be taken seriously and weighed more carefully?

