

RESOLUTION

Subject: Refusal of Licensed Vaccines

Submitted by: Michael Kuduk, MD

Referred to: Reference Committee

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WHEREAS, licensed vaccines prevent diseases that could otherwise cause serious illness, disability or death; and

WHEREAS, licensed vaccines in current use have been very successful as well as cost effective in mitigating serious and lethal illnesses, particularly in children; and

WHEREAS, the current burden of disease which can be prevented by licensed vaccines in the Commonwealth is low due to the success of its vaccination program; and

WHEREAS, the role that licensed vaccines play in promoting positive public health is invaluable; and

WHEREAS, any laws or regulations which result in impairing the effectiveness of Kentucky's vaccination program will inevitably result in an increase in disease, disability, and death from vaccine preventable diseases; and

WHEREAS, unvaccinated individuals possess increased capability to spread vaccine preventable disease, and by exercising their choice to not be vaccinated therefore impair the right of all citizens of the Commonwealth to be free from the peril posed by these diseases; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the KMA shall continue to oppose legislation which would create a protected legal status or civil right for unvaccinated individuals; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the KMA shall continue to oppose legislation which permits refusal of licensed vaccines solely on the basis of conscientious objection or conscientiously held beliefs.