



Kentucky Coalition for Healthy Children

Steering Committee Meeting Notes

May 30, 2023, 1:00 – 2:00 EST

Attendees:

Sheila Schuster	Advocacy Action Network	Gannon Tagher	Kentucky Nurses Association
Joy Varney	Aetna Better Health of Kentucky	Laurie Grimes	Kentucky Psychological Association
Heather Ayer	American Civil Liberties Union of Kentucky	Emily Beauregard Cara Stewart	Kentucky Voices for Health
Joe Bargione Beverly Winsch	Bounce Coalition	Alicia Whatley	Kentucky Youth Advocates
Jessica Lawrence	Cairn Guidance Inc.	Benjamin Cries	Prichard Committee for Academic Excellence
Kate McDonald	Feeding Kentucky	Jennifer Sumeracki	Trans Parent Lex
Amalia Mendoza Alexandra Kerley Katy Walker	Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky	J. Eric Davis	United Healthcare
Lori Vogel	Kentucky Association for School Social Work	Rachel Farr	University of Kentucky
Mike Stone	Kentucky Council on Problem Gambling	Seyed Karimi	University of Louisville
Elizabeth Anderson-Hoagland	Kentucky Department for Public Health		

Meeting Objective:

- The Steering Committee will hear presentations on HB150 and discuss the health and school components and impact of the law.
- The Steering Committee will complete the next steps chart related to the implementation of the priority bills which were passed in the 2023 Legislative Session, including volunteers for some of the actions.

Pre-Meeting Documents to Review:

- **2023 Legislative Session – KCHC Next Steps on Priority Bills – Updated May 2023 Version**
- Complaint – Civil No. 3:23CV-230-RGJ filed against SB150.
- Amicus brief to the complaint filed against SB150
- Kentucky’s SB150: A Resource Guide for the Trans & LGBTQ+ Community
- KSBA’s Model [“Harmful to Minors” Complaint Resolution Policy](#) and a [Complaint Resolution Process Form](#) and KDE’s [Guidance on HB5](#).
- KDE’s [2021-22 Safe Schools Annual Statistical Report](#).

Meeting Notes:

I. Member Updates



- The KCHC has added two new organizations to its Steering Committee. The Kentucky Psychological Association and Trans Parent Lex have joined the Steering Committee, which is now made up of 38 organizations.
- The ThriveKY coalition and the Cabinet for Health and Family Services will hold their Monthly Advocacy Update on state and federal policies with an impact on Kentucky families on June 6, 2023, 2:00 to 3:00 ET. Details [here](#).
- Kentucky Voices for Health and the coalition of ThriveKY partners will provide in-person around the Commonwealth events this year, April through November, with updates on state and federal policies that impact the health and wellbeing of Kentuckians.. Click [here](#) for more information.

II. Presentation on Complaint Filed Against SB150 – Health Components of the Bill

Heather Ayer, Campaign Coordinator for the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Kentucky, presented an overview of the lawsuit filed against SB150, which addresses the health components of the bill.

The meeting packet included the Complaint – Civil No. 3:23CV-230-RGJ filed against SB150, which was the focus of Heather’s presentation, as well as the Amicus brief to the complaint filed against SB150

Some of the questions and comments from the steering committee members:

- An injunction has been filed.
- The law is not based on medical opinion.
- Medically necessary care is not being allowed.
- There are questions about what constitutes services for trans kids.
- When this legislation was heard in committee, no medical provider in Kentucky spoke to support it, others from out of state were brought forth to support it.

III. Presentation on the School Components of SB 150.

Cara Stewart, Director of Policy and Advocacy at Kentucky Voices for Health, presented on some of the impact of the school components contained in SB150.

The Power Point of the presentation will be included in the June 2023 meeting packet.

Some of the questions and comments from the steering committee members:

- There are also people who are organizing an education-based lawsuit against SB150.
- There persists a lot of uncertainty as to how the “referral” to behavioral health services should be understood. For example, if a school nurse referring a student to the teen quit line, My Life My Quit, would it be a violation of SB150? The Department for Public Health has asked the Cabinet lawyers for their opinion.
- There must be a pedagogical purpose for SB150 and that is constitutionally suspect at best. There are strong discrimination arguments. Due process and protections under the 14th amendment.



- The law could lead to shaming and stigmatizing, creating a climate of bigotry. This is unconstitutional. Students have a right to safety.
- The Kentucky Board of Social Work is getting a lot of phone calls about SB150, about what they are allowed to do and say. There is concern about issues related to child abuse and neglect, about youth not going to a trusted adult to talk about things they may not want to talk about at home.
- Engage your local school district, stay aware of those meetings.

IV. Next Steps Document

The Committee did not have time to review the Next Steps document on strategies surrounding the monitoring and implementation of the KCHC priority bills. Amalia asked that comments, suggestions, and additions be sent directly to her via email.

Next Meeting: June 29, 2023.