

Fluoride-fighting Update # 4 from Kansas

Sent to: (e-mail-merge list)

Thursday, February 27, 2014

Hello (Mail-merge List),

Here are some UPDATES:

1. Our Fluoride Bill, HB-2372 was tabled in the Kansas House of Representatives on Monday. That is NOT good news, but at least it was not killed (*voted down*), or worse yet, "*Adversely Reported Out*" of committee as at least one hostile member of the Health and Human Services Committee wanted to do.
2. Had either of those negative things happened, our efforts in the Senate would be futile, or impossible, respectively.
3. In the case of Adverse Reporting, House Rule 1505 would have come into play, requiring 70 votes from the full house to rescue it - and even at that, the bill would have had a "*Scarlet Letter*" of sorts attached to its title, in the form of a notation on all calendars and lists, saying "*Adversely Reported*". That notation is worse than killing a bill, because it can be referred to in future years, making it hard to EVER pass a bill that has been adversely reported by a committee.
4. HB-2372 was NOT adversely reported, and it was not killed. Newspapers and websites that are saying "*the bill was killed*" are simply wrong. Only if we fail in the Senate, and take no further action on HB-2372 in the House prior to the May adjournment, will it die of neglect at the end of the 2014 session.
5. Do not try to make sense out of who voted for what. In the first place, only 12 of the 17 member committee were

present to vote. Our friends that were there voted for tabling to keep something worse from happening. This is why one "No" vote on the motion to table came from a friend and one from a foe. The foe wanted something worse than to table it, whereas the friend wanted it discussed and passed. As is, it takes only a 2/3 vote in that committee to un-table it. Also, a very important point - the Chairman cannot stop it if you have a willing 2/3rds in the committee.

6. The amount of effort, resources and lobbying that our opponents used against us in the Kansas House has been completely overwhelming.
7. Nevertheless, the real problem in the House is the Chairman of the Health and Human Services Committee, **Dr. David Crum**, who has accepted a lot of money over the years from the dental organizations. The house members in general have been badgered severely by our opposition, but 'some' - not all - are hanging in there with us.
8. More than one person has suggested that this fight in Topeka has become a grudge-match to make up for the 2012 Wichita Fluoridation Referendum, which the opposition fully expected to win... *(I guess the shoe is in the other foot now ...in that I certainly did not expect this much well-organized opposition to a simple fluoride label and warning bill!)*
9. Perhaps this is what we should expect, when we start going from town-to-town with the Fluoride Slide Show... which, whether we win or lose HB-2372, we will do after the session.
10. In any case, now is NOT the time to slow down. Now is the time to get serious in the Senate, or we risk a loss. If we do not get this bill passed, our work in individual communities

will be much harder, and we will lack the "appearance-of-legitimacy" that our cause would have with this warning on every water bill, required by the state. Therefore, if you are able to travel to Topeka to help in the coming days and weeks - please let me know.

11. One good thing about Monday's action is that HB-2372 is now safe from further hostile action in the house, while we move forward in the Senate... like landing on "Free Parking" in the game of monopoly.
12. Another good thing is the unexpected large amount of free news coverage, Print, TV and Radio, that we got, where the possibility of fluoride causing a reduction in I.Q. was openly discussed and questioned. Even bringing up that topic makes people stop and think, and that is good in the long run. A fluoride-fighter who was previously unknown-to-me called yesterday and reported extensive media coverage about our bill in Kansas City, Missouri on Wednesday. She wanted to know where to send her check!
13. Remember that we have the most important element in this fight in our hands, "*the truth!*" We will win, we just do not know when.

Action Item-1: If able to do so, please [financially contribute](#) to the effort to pass this bill. Fundraising is our primary hold-up right now. (*A financial report is below.*) We urgently need funds to do some promotion to move the senate in our direction. We need to wake-up the people in various senate districts, and get them to call their senator, asking him or her to support our bill. No amount is too small to donate. Of course we will work to get as much free media as possible, but it will take both free media and paid media to make the impact that we need. Free media can be hard to get in

specific Senate Districts. Free media occurs where ever it happens.

Action Item-2: Below is a list of our 40 Kansas Senators, with e-mail addresses and phone numbers. Please take the time to contact each of the 40 Senators, either by phone, by e-mail or both.

- a. Ask each of them to "PLEASE SUPPORT THE FLUORIDE LABELING BILL." *(There is no bill number yet, but the bill has been written, and is currently available under an "RS" (Revisor-of-Statutes) number. It will be given a Senate Bill number when it is introduced - in all probability in the Senate Federal and State Affairs Committee.*
- b. Be very brief if e-mailing. Short messages WILL get read. Long ones WILL NOT likely be read beyond the first few sentences, and will likely be filed without reading.
- c. Use plain simple facts, like: "PEOPLE COULD GET CANCER AND DIE FOR LACK OF KNOWING THAT THERE IS FLUORIDE IN THEIR WATER." Or,
- d. "NOW THAT FLUORIDE HAS BEEN DESIGNATED A NEUROTOXIN (in the March 2014 *Lancet* Journal), IT WOULD SEEM TO ME THAT THERE IS A GOVERNMENTAL DUTY TO WARN THE PEOPLE WHO ARE CONSUMING THE TOXIN IN THEIR WATER.
- e. The above are just examples of what you can say or write. Be careful not to exaggerate the facts or your call and/or message will be discarded as senseless hyperbole.
- f. Remember that at this first step, we are only asking for a warning label, so that people will know that their water contains fluoride. It is up to the people in each community to call for an end of fluoridation, if they choose to do so. This is not some heavy-handed demand from the state to the communities. It is a perfectly reasonable request that could save many lives, much

needless human suffering, an untold amount of medical costs, and untimely deaths.

- g. Please send e-mails individually, and use the Senator's name. One e-mail with 39 CC's will be treated as a spam-like mailing.
- h. If you are not from Kansas, then make a Kansas connection known to the senator. For example family or friends who live in Kansas.
- i. If you live outside the USA, let the senator know that you have donated money to the proponents of fluoride labeling in Kansas. That is ample connection to Kansas, and one that will be taken seriously, regardless of the amount donated which you should not, in most cases, mention.
- j. Be 100% respectful and nice in dealing with these Senators. They are under much pressure, dealing with many other issues, and they are, or soon will be, visited by our opponents.
- k. For those who have the time... one can also search out individual web-sites of these senators, and contact them that way as well. We want to be noticed! They need to know that we are here.

KS SENATE-40 Query		
NICK	E-MAIL-EXTRAS	WK(F)
Honorable Senator Steve Abrams	Steve.Abrams@senate.ks.gov	785-296-7381
Honorable Senator Pat Apple	Pat.Apple@senate.ks.gov	785-296-7368
Honorable Senator Tom Arpke	Tom.Arpke@senate.ks.gov	785-296-7369
Honorable Senator Elaine S. Bowers	Elaine.Bowers@senate.ks.gov	785-296-7389
Honorable Senate Majority Leader Terry Bruce	Terry.Bruce@senate.ks.gov	785-296-2497
Honorable Senator James A. "Jim" Denning	Jim.Denning@senate.ks.gov	785-296-7394
Honorable Senator Les Donovan Sr.	Les.Donovan@senate.ks.gov	785-296-7385
Honorable Senator Jay Scott Emler	Jay.Emler@senate.ks.gov	785-296-7354
Honorable Senator Oletha Faust-Goudeau	Oletha.Faust-Goudeau@senate.ks.gov	785-296-7387
Honorable Senator Steve Fitzgerald	Steve.Fitzgerald@senate.ks.gov	785-296-7357
Honorable Senator Marci Francisco	Marci.Francisco@senate.ks.gov	785-296-7364
Honorable Senator David Haley	David.Haley@senate.ks.gov	785-296-7376
Honorable Senator Tom Hawk	Tom.Hawk@senate.ks.gov	785-296-7360
Hon. Minority Leader Senator Anthony Hensley	Anthony.Hensley@senate.ks.gov	785-296-3245
Honorable Senator G. Thomas "Tom" Holland II	Tom.Holland@senate.ks.gov	785-296-7372
Honorable Senator Mitch Holmes	Mitch.Holmes@senate.ks.gov	785-296-7667

KS SENATE-40 Query		
NICK	E-MAIL-EXTRAS	WK(F)
Honorable Senator Laura Kelly	Laura.Kelly@senate.ks.gov	785-296-7365
Honorable Senator Daniel J. "Dan" Kerschen	Dan.Kerschen@senate.ks.gov	785-296-7353
Honorable Senate Vice-President Jeff King	Jeff.King@senate.ks.gov	785-296-7361
Honorable Senator Forrest J. Knox	Forrest.Knox@senate.ks.gov	785-296-7678
Honorable Senator Jacob LaTurner	Jacob.LaTurner@senate.ks.gov	785-296-7370
Honorable Senator Jeff Longbine	Jeff.Longbine@senate.ks.gov	785-296-7384
Honorable Majority Whip Senator Garrett Love	Garrett.Love@senate.ks.gov	785-296-7359
Hon. Assistant Majority Leader Senator Julia Lynn	Julia.Lynn@senate.ks.gov	785-296-7382
Honorable Senator Ty Masterson	Ty.Masterson@senate.ks.gov	785-296-7388
Honorable Senator Carolyn McGinn	Carolyn.McGinn@senate.ks.gov	785-296-7377
Honorable Senator Jeff Melcher	Jeff.Melcher@senate.ks.gov	785-296-7301
Honorable Senator Michael O'Donnell II	Michael.ODonnell@senate.ks.gov	785-296-7391
Honorable Senator Robert S. "Rob" Olson	Robert.Olson@senate.ks.gov	785-296-7358
Honorable Senator Ralph Ostmeyer	Ralph.Ostmeyer@senate.ks.gov	785-296-7399
Honorable Senator Mike Petersen	Mike.Petersen@senate.ks.gov	785-296-7355
Honorable Senator Pat Pettey	Pat.Pettey@senate.ks.gov	785-296-7375
Honorable Senator Mary Pilcher-Cook	Mary.PilcherCook@senate.ks.gov	785-296-7362
Honorable Senator Larry R. Powell	Larry.Powell@senate.ks.gov	785-296-7694
Honorable Senator Dennis D. Pyle	Dennis.Pyle@senate.ks.gov	785-296-7379
Honorable Senator Vicki L. Schmidt	Vicki.Schmidt@senate.ks.gov	785-296-7374
Honorable Senator Greg A. Smith	Greg.Smith@senate.ks.gov	785-296-7367
Honorable Senator Caryn Tyson	Caryn.Tyson@senate.ks.gov	785-296-6838
Honorable Senate President Susan Wagle	Susan.Wagle@senate.ks.gov	785-296-2419
Honorable Senator Kay Wolf	kay.wolf@senate.ks.gov	785-296-7390

A huge THANKS to all who have already donated money to make progress possible on the fluoride bill. We have more than doubled our donations since the last newsletter, but we are still only at about 34% of our original goal of \$25,000 for passage in the House. Here is where we stand financially:

- a. We have raised a total of \$8'430.00 so far from just 29 people. A special THANKS to those who have donated for a 2nd and 3rd time. It would be nice to share the burden among more people.
- b. We spent:

- i. \$3564.00 in promotional advertising in the Topeka Capitol-Journal. This was recommended by a legislator, because most of them read the Journal. Here is a link to the tear-sheet: <http://kansasrepublicanassembly.org/fluoridepromo/KansasRepublicanEtearsheet.pdf>
 - ii. \$1500.00 for half of Yolanda Whyte's costs and fees for coming to testify before the committee.
 - iii. \$800.00 for written testimony from Declan Waugh.
 - iv. \$464.02 for lobbyist expenses to date (*hotel + food + gas + tolls.*)
 - v. \$250.75 for printing KFINs for all legislators.
 - vi. \$170.15 for 3-Ring Binders for HHS Committee Members only (*this does not include the printed material inside.*)
 - vii. \$150.00 for bank fees (*\$125 equip fee + \$25 wire fee*)
 - viii. \$56.59 for Credit Card discount fees.
- c. We still owe:
- i. \$??? to reimburse FAN for Michael Connett's expenses to attend the committee meeting. (*Need total bill.*)
 - ii. The other half of Yolanda Whyte's costs and fees.
 - iii. The majority of the printing costs, (*Western Imaging bills monthly.*)

THANK YOU in advance for your [financial help](#) in this battle!

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