

2/24/26

Talking Points: Child Immunization Schedule Budget Proviso

FY 2027 Budget Proviso – Childhood Immunization Schedule

Kansas previously announced alignment with the 2026 immunization schedule developed by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), an independent, physician-led organization representing pediatric experts nationwide. The AAP schedule is grounded in current scientific review, pediatric expertise, and broad medical consensus.

A proviso added by the House Appropriations Committee would require KDHE in FY 2027 to follow the CDC childhood immunization schedule instead of maintaining alignment with the 2026 AAP schedule previously adopted by Kansas.

Why This Matters

- **Stability and Consistency** – Families, clinicians, schools, and employers rely on stable public health guidance.
- **Broad Medical Consensus** – The AAP schedule is endorsed by 12 national medical organizations representing more than 1 million clinicians.
- **Education & Workforce Stability** – Healthy children miss fewer school days, reducing workforce disruptions.
- **Interstate Alignment** – A majority of states are relying on prior recommendations or independent medical association guidance.

Request: We respectfully urge removal of the FY 2027 proviso and continuation of Kansas' alignment with the AAP's evidence-based immunization schedule.

Coalition Talking Points

Core Message

Kansas should maintain stable alignment with the evidence-based 2026 AAP immunization schedule previously adopted by the state and remove the FY 2027 proviso.

Public Health Stability

- The AAP schedule is developed by pediatric experts and grounded in scientific review.
- Changing direction creates confusion for families and providers.

Education & Workforce Impact

- Healthy children stay in school.

- Fewer sick days mean fewer parents missing work.
- Stable immunization policy supports economic productivity.

Medical Consensus

- Endorsed by 12 national medical organizations.
- Reflects cross-specialty agreement.

Business Leader Talking Points

Maintaining alignment with the AAP immunization schedule supports economic stability and workforce reliability across Kansas.

Economic Stability

- Fewer outbreaks reduce workplace absenteeism.
- Healthy children reduce parental work disruptions.
- Preventable outbreaks create avoidable public health costs.

Predictability for Employers

- Consistent public health policy allows businesses to plan effectively.
- Reduces operational uncertainty related to school closures or outbreaks.

The twelve medical and health associations endorsing the 2026 schedule includes:

American Academy of Family Physicians
American College of Nurse Midwives
American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
American Medical Association
American Pharmacists Association
Council of Medical Specialty Societies
Infectious Diseases Society of America
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners
National Medical Association
Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society
Pediatric Pharmacy Association
Society for Adolescent Health and Medicine.