

House Committee on Health and Human Services

March 18, 2015

Dear Chairman Hawkins,

I am pleased to offer a letter of support for Medicaid expansion in Kansas. Anderson County Hospital is a faith-based, critical access hospital in Garnett, KS with 25 beds and 210 employees. Since 1995, Anderson County Hospital has strived to provide the highest quality of healthcare available and our commitment to quality healthcare includes serving those without access to health insurance.

Those Kansans without access to health insurance often go without much needed medical care and such decisions can have a significant financial impact not only on the uninsured but also on the medical provider. Last year Anderson County Hospital provided nearly \$155,000 in charity care. Anderson County Hospital supports any effort that would reduce the number of uninsured in Kansas. This is an excellent opportunity to craft a Kansas solution that would allow the more than one hundred and forty-four thousand (144,000) Kansas citizens without health insurance the opportunity to obtain low-cost health coverage. Additionally, Medicaid expansion would add an additional \$103,000 to the Anderson County economy through additional jobs and economic activity.

We look forward to working with you on this important issue. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Dennis A. Hachenberg, FACHE Chief Executive Officer

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Anderson County Hospital