



Written Comments
Senate Judiciary Committee
SB 96
January 26, 2016

My name is Bob Williams, Executive Director of the Kansas Association of Osteopathic Medicine (KAOM). Thank you for this opportunity to address the Committee regarding SB 96. KAOM is in opposition to SB 96.

Amongst other requirements, this bill imposes a duty on health care providers to make mandatory disclosures of any unanticipated outcomes and medical errors. A \$10,000 fine per event is imposed for failure to disclose. Confidential settlements in medical liability claims from unanticipated outcomes or medical errors are also prohibited.

Hospitals, clinics and health care providers are heavily regulated and frequently reviewed by federal and state agencies. Increasingly, health care providers are held to a rigid set of health care outcome measurements which has resulted in policies for the disclosure of adverse outcomes and errors becoming an integral part of current practice standards.

KAOM agrees with the Kansas Medical Association that "Unless it became part of a comprehensive, confidential, legally-protected, and non-punitive disclosure and reporting structure, this proposal just adds more complexity, cost and uncertainty to the already complex intersection of law and medicine".

Thank you.