



MEDICALODGES, INC.

House Committee on Transportation
Chairman Francis and Committee Members
February 9, 2023

House Bill 2267 – allowing for disability tags on adult care home vehicles.

Proponent

Good afternoon, Mr. Chairman and Committee Members. I am Scott Hines, President/CEO of Medicalodges, Inc. Medicalodges is a 100% Employee owned Company headquartered in Coffeyville Kansas. We have been in business for over 60 years as an owner/operator of nursing home facilities, assisted living facilities, a provider of home and community based services and a provider of care services to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. In Kansas we currently own and operate 18 Skilled Nursing Facilities, 4 Assisted Living Facilities, 4 Home and Community Based Service offices and 2 New Hope Service locations for individuals with Intellectual and Developmental disabilities. We are currently providing services for 1,059 individuals in Kansas and have 1,600 total employees.

We are here today to present testimony supporting HB 2267 - AN ACT concerning motor vehicles; relating to license plates; allowing adult care homes to apply for disability special license plates; amending K.S.A. 8-1,125 and repealing the existing section.

Up until recently we had the ability to apply for and receive a disability license plate. In July of this past year when tagging a new disability accessible van for our Medicalodges Fort Scott Nursing home we were informed by the local tag office that because we were not a “transportation” company that we did not meet the requirements for obtaining a disability license plate, rather the residents being transported would be required to apply for a placard to be displayed from the mirror of the vehicle. As you can imagine this is not a workable alternative. This coming July we will be renewing license plates for our 40 vehicles that are used to transport our residents and consumers on a daily basis and will be looking to renew 25 existing disability tags and applying for 15 additional disability tag and hope that we do not encounter the same opposition we did this past July.

House bill 2267 could correct this. It will provide assurance that we will be able to renew our existing disability license plates and will be able to apply for and receive new disability license plates for our vehicles used in the transportation of our residents and consumers.

Please, support HB 2267 for the safe, reliable, common-sense transportation of all residents living in our adult care homes.

Thank you and I’ll stand for questions at the appropriate time.

Scott Hines, President/CEO
Medicalodges, Inc.