

February 10, 2025

## Representative Will Carpenter

Chair, House Committee on Health and Human Services Kansas State Capitol 300 SW 10<sup>th</sup> St. Topeka, KS 66612

## **Representative Ron Bryce**

Vice Chair, House Committee on Health and Human Services Kansas State Capitol 300 SW 10<sup>th</sup> St.
Topeka, KS 66612

## **RE: Support for HB 2219**

Dear Chair Carpenter, Vice Chair Bryce, and members of the House Committee on Health and Human Services:

On behalf of Teladoc Health, I write to express support for HB 2219. Enacting the Physician Assistant Licensure Compact (PA Compact) in Kansas would be a positive step forward to expedite the process by which out-of-state licensed PAs can treat in-state patients.

By way of background, Teladoc Health is the world's largest telehealth company with more than 5,000 employees. We deliver health care in 175 countries and in more than 40 languages. We partner with employers, hospitals, health systems, and more than 50 health insurance plans in all 50 states – including Kansas – to transform health care delivery. Teladoc Health provides health care services to more than 40 percent of Fortune 500 employers as well as thousands of small businesses, labor unions and public-sector employers which offer our virtual care services to their employees.

Surging caseloads can occur at any time and have the potential to quickly overwhelm Kansas's existing pool of in-state health care professionals. One real-time example is the current ebb and flow of flu, RSV, and other airborne illnesses that are taking their toll on health care systems across the country. Unfortunately, the rapid increase in demand for health care services can – and often does – surpass the number of available in-state providers who can treat patients in a timely manner. Instituting the PA Compact is a commonsense measure that will ensure there is a larger pool of available professionals who can assist in managing patient caseloads.

This bill would also allow virtual care platforms such as Teladoc Health to better leverage their workforce of PAs across the nation. It remains our goal to provide Kansas residents with safe, effective, and valuable health care where and when they need it. The professionals who use the Teladoc Health platform to connect with patients have all met the necessary requirements to be licensed in the states in which they practice.



Teladoc Health appreciates the opportunity to provide our company's unique perspective on the efficacy of HB 2219. Thank you for introducing such an important piece of legislation. Please do not hesitate to contact Teladoc Health's Director of Government Affairs Mercer May at mercer.may@teladochealth.com with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

Kevin Harper

Vice President & Head of Government Affairs

Teladoc Health