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Dear Committee Members,

I am writing to express my strong support for the CAA Licensure Bill and to urge you to advocate for its passage. As a practicing Certified Anesthesiologist Assistant (CAA), I have been providing high-quality anesthesia care at Children's Mercy Hospital for the past ten years. However, despite my dedication and expertise, I am unable to work in my home state of Kansas due to the lack of licensure for CAAs. As a result, I am forced to commute to Missouri, while all the surrounding states allow CAAs to practice.

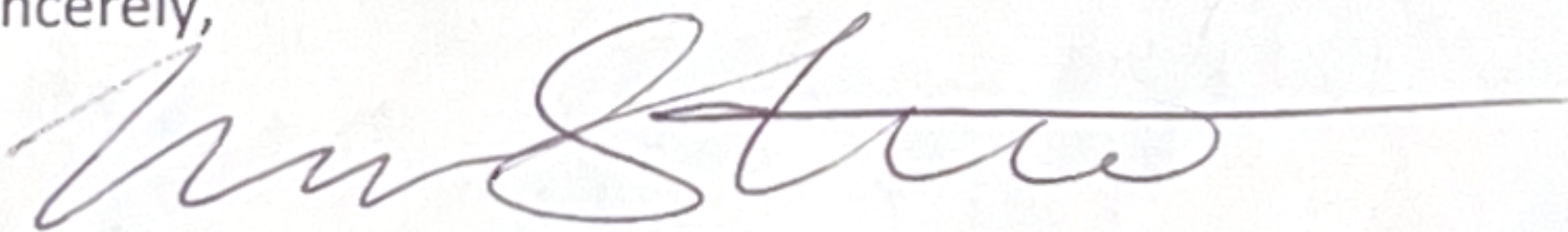
The shortage of anesthesia providers in Kansas is a growing concern, and the licensure of CAAs would be a crucial step in addressing this issue. By allowing CAAs to practice, Kansas would benefit from an expanded workforce capable of ensuring safe and efficient anesthesia delivery, ultimately improving patient care. Additionally, increasing the number of anesthesia providers could help drive down healthcare costs, benefiting both hospitals and patients alike.

The absence of CAA licensure in Kansas also results in a significant economic loss for the state. As a Kansas resident, I pay taxes here, but I am unable to contribute fully to the state's economy since my work is conducted in Missouri. By passing this bill, Kansas would not only gain additional healthcare professionals but also retain tax revenue currently being lost to neighboring states.

It is important to note that CAAs work collaboratively with all anesthesia providers, including Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNAs). I have great respect for my CRNA colleagues, and we function as a team to ensure the highest level of patient care. The passage of this bill would not diminish any existing roles in the field of anesthesia but rather enhance the overall workforce to meet the increasing demand for services.

I respectfully request that you support the CAA Licensure Bill and advocate for its passage to ensure that highly trained anesthesia professionals like myself can serve Kansas patients while also contributing to the state's economy. Thank you for your time and consideration, and I would be happy to discuss this issue further if needed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'L Streed', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Landon Streed CAA