



---

To: Committee on Health and Human Services

From: Travis R. Oller, DC  
Executive Director  
Kansas Chiropractic Association

Date: March 7, 2024

Subject: SB 67: Authorizing registered nurse anesthetists to engage in independent practice and prescribe drugs and prohibiting registered nurse anesthetists from performing an abortion or prescribing drugs to induce an abortion.

### **Proponent Testimony**

Chairman Carpenter and other committee members, I appreciate the opportunity to present Neutral testimony on SB 67.

The Kansas Chiropractic Association represents over 1,200 Doctors of Chiropractic in Kansas and their patients.

Several colleges and universities in the United States and around the world award doctor of chiropractic degrees. These degrees are subject to a rigorous accreditation process by the Council on Chiropractic Education and the National Board of Chiropractic Examiners.

Doctors of Chiropractic in Kansas are licensed as Practitioners of the Healing Arts alongside Doctors of Medicine and Doctors of Osteopathy. They are licensed to “diagnose and treat the human condition and all its diseases.” The only restrictions on our practice are the prescription of medication and the performance of surgery or obstetrics.

Doctors of Chiropractic frequently refer to other healthcare professionals when the co-management of care or outright referral is more appropriate than chiropractic care alone. This includes referrals for pain management services provided by a physician, anesthesiologist, or CRNA.

These referrals are common. However, under the current licensing system, Doctors of Chiropractic cannot refer directly to the CRNA. The referral must first pass through another physician-level provider (or a PA or APRN) before the CRNA can treat the patient. These challenges are even more significant in western Kansas, where there is a shortage of anesthesiologists.

These additional referrals only increase healthcare costs for the patient and their insurers. Additionally, this causes a delay in treatment when our patients need it most.



---

SB 67 will allow CRNAs to provide care more promptly to patients in areas of Kansas that are underserved by physician anesthesiologists.

We offer our support for SB 67 and ask the House Committee on Health and Human Services to recommend SB 67 favorable for passage.

Travis R. Oller, DC  
Executive Director  
Kansas Chiropractic Association