



Opponent Testimony for HB2246

February 10, 2025

To Chairman Sutton and members of the committee,

My name is Ruth Duling, and I serve as the hospital administrator for Girard Medical Center. I appreciate the opportunity to share my perspective and opposition to House Bill 2246.

Our hospital, and Kansas hospitals in general, are committed to price transparency and meeting all federal requirements. Patients deserve accurate information, and Kansas hospitals are proactive in addressing any compliance concerns to ensure they meet federal standards and patient expectations.

Specifically, my hospital has provided the appropriate good faith estimates to patients in 2024. A good faith estimate is a list of expected charges for medical care before receiving services. We encourage patients to call our hospital to discuss pricing estimates. Further, Girard Medical Center also is compliant with displaying 300 shoppable services to meet the federal price transparency requirements.

Girard Medical Center, along with many other Kansas hospitals, attend numerous educational opportunities throughout the year related to Price Transparency Compliance. In my opinion, Kansas hospitals have invested the resources to meet the price transparency law.

This begs the question as to why Kansas would duplicate the federal government requirements and unnecessarily grow government oversight.

Kansas hospitals share concerns about rising healthcare costs and are actively advocating for reforms that address the true drivers of these expenses, such as administrative burdens and prescription drug prices. We're committed to working with policymakers and stakeholders to address these issues, ensure patients have access to affordable care, and reduce unnecessary costs.

Girard Medical Center thanks the committee for your consideration to oppose House Bill 2246.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ruth Duling".

Ruth Duling, CEO