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## Testimony on Senate Resolution 1831, Delay in the Implementation of KanCare

## Presented To Senate Committee on Public Health and Welfare

## By Kari Bruffett Director, Division of Health Care Finance Kansas Department of Health and Environment

## March 15, 2012

Chair Schmidt and Members of the Senate Committee on Public Health and Welfare, thank you for the opportunity to present testimony regarding Senate Resolution 1831.

The resolution would request the Governor to delay implementation of KanCare by six months. I would like to provide some additional information that may be helpful as you consider the resolution.

The Administration appreciates many of the concerns raised by the Legislature regarding the implementation of KanCare. Like you, we do not want to implement a system if it is not ready. That is why we continue to be focused on specific steps we will take to address concerns and prepare for the transition.

For example, the Governor has proposed a uniform billing front door solution as a Governor's Budget Amendment, responding to concerns raised by legislators and by providers who are not accustomed to billing multiple payers. The GBA also includes enhanced education funding, to allow more population-tailored communications to both Medicaid beneficiaries and providers, including meetings to be held across the state in the summer and fall.

Our implementation plans also include readiness reviews, the process for which will start soon after the contracts are in place, and network adequacy milestones.

The Administration is taking these steps and others to ease the transition to KanCare and ensure that the January 2013 implementation date will be met. We will not implement if reviews indicate we are not ready. But we also do not want to unnecessarily delay the benefits of KanCare.

Thank you for the opportunity to address the resolution. I will be happy to answer questions you may have.