



February 21, 2013

Members of the House Appropriations Committee:

I want to ask for your support in the defeat of HCR 5013. There is little reason to shut the door on further review of Medicaid Expansion under the ACA. It is not necessary at this time to make a decision of yes or no. It is important to step back and watch how other states may benefit from changes they have offered to the federal government for expanding Medicaid. As Chair of the Governor's KanCare Task Force, I know first hand that this approach has been essential for the successful launch of KanCare. If this formula worked for KanCare, why isn't it worthy of applying it to the possible expansion of Medicaid? We will not have that chance, though, if HCR 5013 is approved.

Voting against the bill might not be popular with some, but it is a decision that makes sense. Hospitals in Kansas are giving up about \$1.3 billion to the ACA. Part of the "pay back" was to provide some financial support to hospitals that are treating the uninsured. Hospitals are really hurting and it is important that we don't shut this door before we look inside.

Thanks for all you are doing in providing leadership for our state.

Sincerely,

Steve Kelly, President&CEO
Newton Medical Center