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Dennis Allin, M.D., Chair
Steven Sutton, Executive Director

**Board of
Emergency Medical Services**

Sam Brownback, Governor

Testimony

Date: February 5, 2013

To: The Honorable Representative David Crum
Chair, House Committee on Health and Human Services

From: Steven Sutton, Executive Director

RE: HB 2183, Communicable Disease Testing and Disclosure of Information

Mister Chair and Members of the House Committee on Health and Human Services, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on behalf of the Kansas Board of Emergency Medical Services for HB 2183. My name is Steven Sutton, and I am the Executive Director for the Kansas Board of Emergency Medical Services (KBEMS).

KBEMS is supportive of HB 2183, dealing with Communicable Disease Testing and Disclosure of Information. This bill incorporates new language in several statutes which define, clarify, and identify updates to information and processes that address the management and follow-up of exposure to communicable diseases by emergency first responders, whether fire, law enforcement or EMS. This bill identifies mechanisms to ensure that those providers found to be affected are made aware of that exposure and a treatment regime implemented. If not known and not treated, there is the potential for continued exposure to fellow workers, family members and patients treated after the exposure. We ask for your unanimous support of the bill to protect those that serve you, your family and the citizens of Kansas.

Thank you for allowing me to provide testimony on HB 2183. I am more than happy to answer any questions you may have.