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House Health and Human Services Committee
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**HB 2244 – Support
Safe Families Act**

Chairman Hawkins and committee members, thank you for the opportunity to testify in favor of a process that would mend and fortify struggling families with volunteer community support.

Most of us have either witnessed or actually been in a crisis situation that created instability in a family. In some situations like this, relatives are able to step in and help until the crisis passes or give some type of supervision and instruction so the crisis is not as likely to happen again. However, some families do not have that support. This bill would give other Kansas families that could provide that support with the ability to step forward and offer help with confidence.

This legislation encourages neighbors helping neighbors and could be a significant step forward in helping children and their families in Kansas.

Government does not have the inherent capacity to do the work of charity. As much as we try to craft policy carefully to help our most vulnerable citizens, government continually falls short and simply cannot match the concern and love of human beings who can mentor and stand by families who are suffering.

I am eager for you to hear what other states have done by the other proponents and how valuable this could be for Kansas.