



To: Rep. Dan Hawkins, Chair and Members,
Health and Human Services Committee
From: Rachel Monger, Director of Government Affairs
Date: March 10, 2015

Testimony in Support of Senate Bill 142

Thank you, Mr. Chair and Members of the Committee. I am Rachel Monger, Director of Government Affairs for LeadingAge Kansas, the state association for not-for-profit aging services. We have 160 members across Kansas, which include not-for-profit nursing homes, retirement communities, hospital long-term care units, assisted living, homes plus, housing, low-income housing, home health agencies, home and community based service programs, PACE and Meals on Wheels. Our members serve more than 25,000 elders each day.

We have been proud to count Programs of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) as members of our association since their inception in Kansas, and are excited about the coming expansion of PACE across the eastern portion of our state.

We are writing in support of SB 142, which removes PACE from the definition of an "adult care home" under Kansas statute. By doing so, it will eliminate the burden of duplicative licensure surveys currently being conducted in their adult day service centers. All aspects of PACE undergo detailed and stringent federal inspection, and duplicative surveys at the state level become a waste of dollars and resources for all involved.

We believe that SB 142 strikes an ideal balance between ensuring the health and safety of elders through vigorous oversight, and using our state resources in the most efficient and cost-effective manner possible.

We hope the Committee will consider SB 142 favorably for passage.