



Kansas Association of HealthCare Executives
215 SE Eighth Ave
Topeka, KS 66603-3906

TO: House Health and Human Services Committee

FROM: Robert Bregant, FACHE

DATE: March 12, 2015

RE: House Bill 2319 – Support

On behalf of the Kansas Association of Healthcare Executives (KAHCE), I am pleased to provide a letter of support for House Bill 2319, which requires the Kansas Department of Health and Environment to develop a federal Medicaid waiver for a budget-neutral managed care program known as KanCare 2.0. KanCare 2.0 would provide access to healthcare coverage options for newly eligible individuals while employing personal responsibility through cost sharing and rewarding healthy outcomes and responsible health choices.

KAHCE members include top executives in nearly all Kansas hospitals and many affiliated organizations, such as surgery centers, rehabilitation facilities, and home care agencies. As such, our members represent organizations in large cities such as Wichita and Overland Park, as well as small towns such as Ashland and Wakeeney. These providers are diverse in their size and scope, but all are critical to the health of their population and economic stability of their communities.

Our position:

- Kansas healthcare leaders believe Kansas should thoughtfully develop a unique, Kansas-based solution that takes advantage of the federal funds to build upon and improve our current KanCare program.
- Keep Kansas Taxpayer Dollars in Kansas - By the end of 2015, over \$355.3 million in federal reimbursement cuts, additional fees and taxes intended to support the ACA will leave Kansas and go to Washington to be spent in other states – states expanding their Medicaid programs.
- KanCare 2.0 will add needed dollars that will assist in growing the economy, creating jobs and supporting the state's budget through increased revenues and cost savings.
- Without KanCare 2.0, roughly 2,546 fewer jobs across all industries will be created in 2016; this rises to 3,830 fewer jobs in 2020.

- Kansas should move forward with a Kansas solution, one that builds upon the KanCare program. A Kansas solution to expansion would bring nearly \$8.0 billion to our most vulnerable Kansans over the next ten years. That money should not go to other states. Bring Kansas money back to Kansans.

Our members are available to answer your questions regarding the impact of each of our organizations and communities. We welcome the opportunity to help you understand our goals and how we serve the most vulnerable citizens of our state.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments.

Robert E. Bregant, FACHE
President, Kansas Association of Healthcare Executives