



TO: House Health and Human Services Committee

FROM: Mallory Laur, President Kansas City Healthcare Communicators Society

DATE: March 18, 2015

RE: House Bill 2319 – Support

On behalf of the Kansas City Healthcare Communicators Society (KCHCS), 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 health care coverage options for newly eligible individuals while employing personal responsibility through cost sharing and rewarding healthy outcomes and responsible health choices.

The members of KCHCS are health care communicators from organizations across the Kansas City metro area. We work in an industry and live in communities that are greatly impacted by the growing number of uninsured patients. We know that lack of insurance keeps people from receiving regular care. Unfortunately, the uninsured often turn up in emergency rooms because their health is not properly managed. Expanding Medicaid would enable thousands to gain coverage.

We strongly urge our legislators to support the passing of this bill. Thank you for your consideration of my comments.