



TO: House Health and Human Services Committee

FROM: Jeremy Armstrong, Chief Executive Officer MCHHS

DATE: March 13, 2015

RE: House Bill 2319 – Support

Dear Representative:

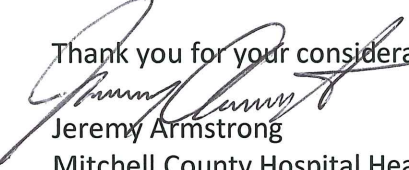
As a constituent, and on behalf of Mitchell County Hospital Health Systems in Beloit, I am requesting your support for House Bill 2319, which requires the Kansas Department of Health and Environment to develop a federal Medicaid waiver for a budget-neutral managed care program known as KanCare 2.0.

Mitchell County Hospital Health Systems is a Critical Access Hospital that provides medical care to not only Mitchell county but patrons across the North Central Kansas region. During the last fiscal year our facility along with many others have struggled fiscally due to health care reform reductions impacting our bottom line negatively by an estimated \$147,000 per year. At MCHHS we strive to serve our patients and communities with exceptional healthcare in a compassionate and healing environment. With ACA reductions and other health care reform strategies, our work has suffered and I believe the development of a budget-managed care program like KanCare 2.0 could support and begin to assist medical facilities in quality care and performance.

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. This type of program would aide Mitchell County Hospital by reducing current uncompensated care costs and return close to \$500,000 per year to our facility.

I am aware that there is work yet to be done to pass HB 2319. As you move forward, I hope you will consider the positive impacts that a program like KanCare 2.0 could provide throughout not only your district but also medical facilities across the state. I hope you will acknowledge how critical of a decision this is and support HB 2319 for the medical future of our communities and State.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments.


Jeremy Armstrong
Mitchell County Hospital Health Systems
Chief Executive Officer