

THE UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS HOSPITAL

Bob Page
President & Chief Executive Officer
Hospital Executive Office

March 18, 2015

Chairman Dan Hawkins
House Health and Human Services Committee
Kansas Statehouse
300 SW 10th St., Room 521-E
Topeka, KS 66612

Dear Chairman Hawkins:

Today you are hearing a bill of critical importance to The University of Kansas Hospital and health care providers across the state, HB 2319. This legislation would allow Governor Brownback to negotiate with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) on KanCare expansion. I am in strong support of this legislation and KanCare expansion.

The University of Kansas Hospital Authority Board has passed a resolution that states:

“Now, therefore, be it resolved, that this Board acting pursuant to the authority granted to it by the Act and the Authority’s Bylaws, hereby determines that the following policy statement is adopted and incorporated as an addition to The University of Kansas Hospital Legislative Agenda in support of KanCare expansion in the State of Kansas:

“The health care costs of low-income, uninsured individuals are currently being passed on to businesses and others in the system. As such, we support Kansas solutions that maximize coverage under KanCare which will not only promote improved health for thousands of Kansans, but provide a much needed stimulus for health care providers and the State’s economy, and in so much as possible, without additional costs to the State of Kansas.”

As you can see, our Board believes strongly in a Kansas solution for many reasons. The Hospital experienced uncompensated care costs of \$60 million in FY 2014; the importance of KanCare expansion is undeniable. We know many hospitals across the state are in far more difficult positions than we are, and we cannot risk their futures. It is time to act.

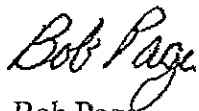
Prior to this legislative session, I resisted becoming involved in expansion discussions. I felt it was incumbent on us, the provider community, to come up with a solution policymakers could analyze and move forward. By working with the Kansas Hospital Association and other stakeholders, we have a workable solution, and we feel confident presenting it to you for movement through the policymaking process.

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Please know how much we appreciate you taking the time to hear this bill. It is a critical issue, and it deserves the public airtime. If there is anything more I can do to assist you in this process, please let me know.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bob Page".

Bob Page
President and CEO