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Kansas Psychiatric Society

Date: January 21, 2016

To: House Health and Human Services Committee

From: The Kansas Psychiatric Society Council

Subject: House Bill 2455

Chairman Hawkins and members of the committee, this testimony is being offered on behalf of the Kansas Psychiatric Society Council in support of House Bill 2455. This measure would allow the use of what is commonly known as Lisdexamfetamine (Vyvanse) to treat moderate to severe binge eating disorders in adults. On January 30, 2015, the FDA granted marketing approval for Lisdexamfetamine (Vyvanse) to be used in treating binge eating disorders in adults. Subsequently the Kansas Board of Healing Arts approved the use of Lisdexamfetamine (Vyvanse) for the treatment of moderate to severe binge eating disorder on August 14, 2015. At the time of the August 14, 2015 Order, Lisdexamfetamine (Vyvanse) was the only drug approved by the FDA for such treatment.

Binge eating disorder was recently approved for inclusion in DSM-5 as its own category of eating disorder. In DSM-IV, binge-eating disorder was not recognized as a disorder but rather described in Appendix B: Criteria Sets and Axes Provided for Further Study, and was diagnosable using only the catch-all category of "eating disorder not otherwise specified."

The chapter on Feeding and Eating Disorders in the fifth edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-5) includes several changes to better represent the symptoms and behaviors of patients dealing with these conditions across the lifespan. One of the most substantial changes is recognition of binge eating disorder.

Binge eating disorder is defined as recurring episodes of eating significantly more food in a short period of time than most people would eat under similar circumstances, with episodes marked by feelings of lack of control. Someone with binge eating disorder may eat too quickly, even when he or she is not hungry. The person may have feelings of guilt, embarrassment, or disgust and may binge eat alone to hide the behavior. This disorder is associated with marked distress and occurs, on average, at least once a week over three months.

This change in the DSM-5 is intended to increase awareness of the substantial differences between binge eating disorder and the common phenomenon of overeating. While overeating is a challenge for many Americans, recurrent binge eating is much less common, far more severe, and is associated with significant physical and psychological problems.

On behalf of the Kansas Psychiatric Society, we encourage you to favorably consider House Bill 2455. The approval by the state of Kansas of another treatment to be brought to bear on this disorder will benefit the quality of life of those citizens of the state of Kansas suffering from this disease.

Thank you for your every consideration in this matter.