



WRITTEN TESTIMONY
House Health and Human Services
SB 341
March 10, 2016

My name is Bob Williams, Executive Director of the Kansas Association of Osteopathic Medicine (KAOM). Thank you for this opportunity to address the Committee regarding SB 341. KAOM does NOT support SB 341.

SB 341 would allow step-therapy for Medicaid patients. Specifically, SB 341 would require a patient to fail on a medication before they could receive a more effective treatment. Furthermore, the required step therapy is based on cost alone and not therapeutic outcomes.

Delaying treatment, because a physician is required to implement step therapy, can jeopardize a patient's health and cost the state more money in the long run. SB 341 could add weeks to a patient's treatment plan. Physicians are very much aware of the cost of medication and do all they can to keep treatment costs down without jeopardizing their patient's health. Over the last several years more and more regulations and paper work have been imposed upon physicians, all of which takes time away from the practice of medicine. Physicians do not need more government hoops to jump through in order to provide care to their patients.

KAOM respectfully requests you oppose SB 341.

Thank you.