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TO: Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee

FROM: Physician Hospital Association of Kansas, Inc.

DATE: February 10, 2015

RE: Senate Bill 122

Thank you for taking the time to consider these remarks on behalf of the Physician Hospital Association of Kansas. The members of the Physician Hospital Association of Kansas have voiced concerns regarding the provisions of SB 122.

Our member hospitals support the concept of transparency in health care and have provided support as recently as the 2014 Kansas Legislative Session for that very principal that was ultimately embodied in House Bill 2668 as the "Predetermination of Health Care Benefits Act".

The patient notification requirements of Senate Bill 122 appear to add an additional layer of administrative duties requiring our members to provide notice to patients that they are already receiving through other means like signage. Patients are currently provided notice that they are entering a provider based facility by signage required by provisions in the Code of Federal Regulations.

In addition to the additional layer of administrative duties, the further notice required by Senate Bill 122 may place our member's personnel providing the notice in a challenging position. Patients are likely to want more information about the provisions in the required notice and the hospital personnel will have no way of knowing what the charges might be somewhere else for example.

The goal of transparency in health care is well underway with the provisions of House Bill 2668 from last year. We respectfully suggest that until those measures are implemented and have had sufficient time to be fully realized that Senate Bill 122 should be held in abeyance. We would also point out that patients are typically already being made aware that they are receiving services from a provider based facility as the result of other provisions of the law as cited above.

Thank you for considering our comments.