Adam Striker, M.D.
Anesthesia Associates of Kansas City
Ste 600
Overland Park, KS 66210
January 27, 2017

Representative Daniel Hawkins
Chair, Committee on Health and Human Services
Kansas House of Representatives
300 SW 10th Street
Room 186-N
Topeka, KS 66612

Dear Representative Hawkins:

We are a group of over 100 Physician Anesthesiologists that practice at a number of hospitals in both Missouri and Kansas, and are the largest group of anesthesia providers in the Kansas City metro area. Over 30 of us practice at Children's Mercy Hospitals and Clinics in both Missouri and Kansas, and we are writing to you in support of HB 2046. As you are aware, HB 2046 would allow for the licensing of Anesthesiologist Assistants in the State of Kansas. Our department has worked with both Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists and Anesthesiologist Assistants together for over six years, and we all work as part of a highly functional team to deliver the best possible care to our patients.

Currently, the Anesthesiologist Assistants whom we work with cannot work in Kansas and this creates a significant limitation with staffing at Children's Mercy Kansas in Overland Park. With the passage of this bill, that staffing limitation would be alleviated. The Nurse Anesthetists and the Anesthesiologist Assistants have worked successfully together in a collegial and clinically challenging environment and this optimal team approach has benefited so many of our patients. We would like to continue the ability to provide the highest quality care in all of our Children's Mercy locations, and passage of HB 2046 would allow us to do so. We strongly encourage you and the other committee members to vote in favor of HB 2046.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Adam Striker, M.D.

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Sarah Cassias, MD

Jack Erkmann, DO

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Kathy Perryman, MD