

**COMMITTEE TESTIMONY - House Committee on Health and Human Services**

BILL #: HB 2217

DATE OF TESTIMONY: 02/07/17

NAME OF PERSON TESTIFYING: **Brandon Beck, President**

AGENCY REPRESENTED: **Kansas EMS Association**

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PLEASE CHECK ONE:

PROPONENT

NEUTRAL

OPPONENT

VERBAL TESTIMONY

WRITTEN TESTIMONY



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*Unity Is Strength*

To: Kansas House Committee on Health and Human Services

Re: Support for HB 2217

From: Kansas Emergency Medical Services Association (KEMSA), Brandon Beck, President  
Date: February 7, 2017

The Kansas Emergency Medical Services Association (KEMSA) is the professional association representing the paramedics, EMTs and ambulance services serving the citizens of Kansas. KEMSA works on various regulatory and legislative matters as well as conferences and educational programs.

KEMSA supports the passage of HB 2217.

HB 2217 will provide needed policy to allow for the expanded use of opioid antagonists, which have proven successful in many other states as an emergency response to the national opioid epidemic. While currently Kansas is not suffering to the same magnitude of the opioid epidemic, HB 2217 will allow a greater number of personnel such as law enforcement, school nurses, and bystanders to administer this life saving medication.

KEMSA recognizes the potential benefit of HB 2217 and appreciates that the various groups that have worked together to bring forward HB 2217 represent the wide range of professionals that is necessary to have a successful effort. Physicians, pharmacists, EMS, law enforcement, school nurses and others have all worked on this effort. We expect to use this same collaboration in order to implement HB 2217 upon its passage.

We encourage you to support passage of HB 2217.

Sincerely,

Brandon Beck  
President  
Kansas EMS Association (KEMSA)  
[brandon@kemsa.org](mailto:brandon@kemsa.org)