

**HB 2217 – Standards governing the use and administration of emergency opioid antagonists.**  
**House Committee on Health and Human Services**

**Neutral Testimony**

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Executive Director  
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Chairman Hawkins and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony upon HB 2217. Our Board is supportive of the overall intent of the bill and of its preventative nature.

We are neutral to the current draft of this bill as we believe that the word “ambulance service” needs to be removed from the definition of “First responder agency” (Page 1, Line 19). Ambulance services already meet or exceed the requirements listed for a “First responder agency” and the Board is working upon regulatory changes to allow all EMS providers to administer an opioid antagonist when indicated.

We believe that having “ambulance service” within this bill has the ability to create confusion and the possibility of having an ambulance service respond to two regulatory entities.

On confusion, this bill would require an ambulance service to have a physician medical director specifically for the agency’s emergency opioid antagonist program. Ambulance services are already required to have a physician medical director for all care being provided. Additionally, upon page 3, Lines 8-9, having ambulance service as part of the definition of First responder agency would mean that the ambulance service would need to coordinate its activities with itself.

We support and appreciate that this bill takes into account the need for medical oversight of the first responder agency and requires measures to ensure that EMS is contacted for any administration of this antagonist.

Our Board also supports access to opioid antagonists as we have recently started through the regulatory revision process to allow for all EMS providers to have the ability to administer naloxone for suspected opioid overdoses.

We feel that removal of “ambulance service” from Page 1, Line 19 does not affect the overall content of this bill, but minimizes any potential conflicts and unnecessary redundancies.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide this testimony on HB 2217 and would appreciate your consideration to remove “ambulance service” as noted below. I would be happy to stand for questions at the appropriate time.

***Proposed amendment – Page 1 - Lines 18-20***

18 (4) "First responder agency" includes, but is not limited to, any law  
19 enforcement agency, fire department, ~~ambulance service~~ or criminal  
20 forensic laboratory of any city, county or the state of Kansas.