



Thomas L. Bell
President

To: House Health and Human Services

From: Chad Austin
Senior Vice President Government Relations

Date: February 13, 2016

Re: House Bill 2254

The Kansas Hospital Association appreciates the opportunity to provide comments on HB 2254 which establishes definitions and licensure requirements for telemedicine in Kansas.

KHA believes every Kansan deserves access to quality health care. Telemedicine is one way to ensure that our rural communities have the same access to health services as urban areas. The rural nature of our state coupled with the anticipated health care workforce shortages in future years makes encouraging telemedicine programs in Kansas imperative.

We are supportive of any efforts which remove barriers to telemedicine activities. Providing clear definitions like those in HB 2254 reduce ambiguity and hopefully will encourage more physicians to become involved in telemedicine.

Thank you for consideration of our comments.