



1100 SW Gage Blvd.
Topeka, Kansas 66604-1761
(785) 267-6003 Phone
(785) 267-0833 Fax
khca.org
khca@khca.org



House Health and Human Services Committee
Chairman Dan Hawkins
February 20, 2017

HB 2297- Proponents

Mr. Chairman and Committee Members

We are the Kansas Health Care Association and Kansas Center for Assisted Living, a trade association with a membership of nursing homes, assisted living, residential health care, home plus, and nursing facilities for mental health. We are the oldest and largest nursing home trade association in Kansas. Our members care for nearly 20,000 elders across the state each and every day.

We are today in support of House Bill 2297, this would allow a **professional health care association** approved by the Secretary to meet the requirement to teach the course. Currently, the certified medication aide training allows a professional health care association to teach the curriculum. We also are permitted to teach the Operator Course.

In just doing a quick survey of my counterparts across the country out of 21 responses, 8 state associations are allowed to teach the Certified Nurse Aide curriculum. All of our border states are a part of this group; Missouri, Nebraska, and Oklahoma as well as, Ohio, South Dakota, Tennessee, Alaska and Wisconsin.

Our members already teach the program at their own buildings. By allow the association to teach the course, we would have access to excellent nurse educators who are proficient in the person centered care model and we would be able to host the course around the state to meet the employment needs of our members. Because our education schedule is not tied to a calendar year or academic year, we would bring ultimate flexibility to schedule these classes including evenings and weekends. We would have a positive impact on our skilled nursing centers as well as train individuals to be ready for the work force as quickly as possible.

As a professional healthcare association, KHCA is currently approved to teach the social service designee, activity directory, certified med aide, certified medication aide update course and the adult care home operator course. We feel that from a consistency stand point, it is only logical that we should be considered as an instructor.

We are passionate about correctly training people to properly care for Kansas Elders.

Submitted by Cindy Luxem
CEO/President Kansas Health Care Association