



KANSAS EMS ASSOCIATION
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Unity Is Strength

To: Kansas Senate Committee on Judiciary

Re: Support for SB 72

From: Kansas Emergency Medical Services Association (KEMSA), Brandon Beck, President Date: February 9, 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 SB 72.

One of the provisions of SB 72 is including EMS personnel as mandatory reporters of abuse of vulnerable persons. KEMSA supports the addition of EMS personnel to have this responsibility. Across the nation this expectation is the norm. In Kansas, most EMS personnel believe they are already under a statutory obligation to report abuse and neglect of those who are vulnerable to such situations.

EMS personnel are in a unique situation as we are often summoned to the homes where these people live and thus we are direct witnesses of the environment and the circumstances surrounding critical events. It is critical to have EMS personnel educated and prepared to spot these types of situations and bring them to light.

KEMSA stands ready to assist with the education of EMS personnel on the obligations of this law and to seek ways to better prepare them to identify abuse and neglect. Thus, allowing us to serve our neighbors in an increased capacity.

KEMSA strongly supports the passage of SB 72 and encourages your support.

Sincerely,

Brandon Beck

President

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