



**An independent voice for
those served by KanCare.**

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Sen. Schmidt and members of the Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today in support of SB 69. I am here on behalf of the KanCare Advocates Network (KAN). KAN is a coalition of advocates whose collective interests include issues impacting children and adults who are served by KanCare under the Kansas Medicaid program.

Among its activities, KAN has tracked and documented the financial strain KanCare has placed on providers of services of both long term supports and services and medical care. As part of that effort, we hosted three public forums across the state in May, July and October and heard from at least 500 individuals, families and providers.

Representatives from across the provider network spoke at those meetings. They all expressed frustrations with delayed and incorrect reimbursements and burdensome administrative processes. They also were concerned about their inability to access information about the people for whom they care. They also spoke about the need for a uniform credentialing process and consistent and timely communications between providers and managed care organizations. This bill addresses those concerns as well as providing the opportunity for a independent, third-party external review on appeal.

The success of KanCare depends upon a healthy and robust provider network. That network is the bedrock of KanCare's goal of improving the health outcomes for recipients. SB 69 provides stability, uniformity and consistency to administrative processes, ultimately improving their ability to care for their patients.

KAN urges you to support SB 69.

Sincerely,

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Senate Public Health and Welfare

Date _____

Attachment 5