



KANSAS EMS ASSOCIATION

6021 SW 29th St., Suite A PMB 359 | Topeka, KS 66614
Ph: 785.580.3459 | Fax: 888.760.6884 | www.kemsa.org

Unity Is Strength

To: Kansas Senate Committee on Public Health & Welfare

Re: Support for SB 165

From: Kansas Emergency Medical Services Association (KEMSA), Brandon Beck, President
Date: February 15, 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 the passage of SB 165.

SB 165 will provide needed policy to allow for the expanded use of opioid antagonists, which have proven successful in many other states as an emergency response to the national opioid epidemic. While currently Kansas is not suffering to the same magnitude of the opioid epidemic, SB 165 will allow a greater number of personnel such as law enforcement, school nurses, and by-standers to administer this life saving medication.

KEMSA recognizes the potential benefit of SB 165 and appreciates that the various groups that have worked together to bring forward SB 165 represent the wide range of professionals that is necessary to have a successful effort. Physicians, pharmacists, EMS, law enforcement, school nurses and others have all worked on this effort. We expect to use this same collaboration in order to implement SB 165 upon its passage.

We encourage you to support passage of SB 165.

Sincerely,

Brandon Beck
President
Kansas EMS Association (KEMSA)
brandon@kemsa.org