Senate Committee on Public Health and Welfare
Chairwoman Vicki Schmidt and Committee Members
January 18, 2018

HB 2232 – Proponent

Good Morning Madam Chair and Committee Members. I am Linda MowBray, Vice President of the Kansas Health Care Association and the Kansas Center for Assisted Living. KHCA/KCAL is 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 nursing home trade association in Kansas and our members care for nearly 20,000 elders across the state each and every day.

The legislation before you today HB 2232 concerning the use of electronic monitoring in Kansas Adult Care Homes, is ahold over from last session. We were neutral on the bill last year because we felt some key points needed to be addressed for the sake of the elder as well as the provider. We are now proponents of HB 2232 as amended as we believe that the major issues have been addressed.

The number one goal of adult care homes across Kansas is to provide quality care for elders in Kansas. We feel HB 2232 is in line with that goal. The key points that we felt needed to be addressed were:

- That the resident, guardian or legal representative be informed of the proper procedure for reporting complaints as outlined by KDADS. Basically, if you see something that concerns you, do you know what your responsibility is to report it.
- Roommate consent – we wanted to make sure that a roommate could change their mind and withdraw consent and that the facility could intervene if the device was not turned off.

HB 2232 is a compromise between providers and resident advocate groups. While not perfect, it demonstrates a willingness for advocates to work together for the common good of the frail elders in Kansas.

Kansas Health Care Association and Kansas Center for Assisted Living ask for your support of HB 2232. Thank you and I would be happy to stand for questions.