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Testimony concerning SB 377
Senate Committee on Public Health and Welfare
Presented by Alexandra Blasi, Executive Secretary
On behalf of
The Kansas State Board of Pharmacy
February 13, 2018

Madam Chair and Members of the Committee:

The Kansas State Board of Pharmacy respectfully submits this testimony in support of SB 377. The bill would allow pharmacists to administer drugs by injection pursuant to a prescription order. Administration of immunizations by pharmacists is already allowed in Kansas under K.S.A. 65-1635a, and pharmacists are equipped to provide this service to patients safely and effectively. The Board is ready and willing to take on any oversight, including drafting and adopting any regulations. The Board thinks regulations may be necessary to require pharmacists administering drugs by injection to have up-to-date CPR certifications or other education, similar to that required for immunizations. No amendment should be necessary, as the Board has authority to adopt regulations necessary to carry out the Pharmacy Practice Act and could look more closely at this issue at a later date.

The Board does not anticipate any fiscal impact that cannot be absorbed by our current appropriation authority and staff, but it is difficult to predict unforeseen circumstances that may arise.

The Board requests the Committee consider a somewhat unrelated amendment to SB 377. Last year, this legislature heard and adopted 2017 HB 2055, which included significant amendments to K.S.A. 65-1626 to comply with the Federal Drug Supply Chain Security Act (DSCSA). The new language inadvertently excluded the definition of a prescription only device and erroneously defined wholesale distributor. The Board would sincerely appreciate using SB 377 as a vehicle to correct this oversight.

Respectfully submitted,

Alexandra Blasi, JD, MBA
Executive Secretary