Kansas State Board of Healing Arts 800 SW Jackson, Lower Level-Suite A Topeka, KS 66612



phone: 785-296-7413 fax: 785-368-7102 Email: KSBHA_healingarts@ks.gov www.ksbha.org

Kathleen Selzler Lippert, Executive Director

Laura Kelly, Governor

To: House Health and Human Services Chairperson Representative Landwehr:

From: Kathleen Selzler Lippert, JD, Executive Director

Kansas State Board of Healing Arts (KSBHA)

Date: February 18, 2019

Subject: HB 2295 Relating to Creating Anesthesiologist Assistant as a profession

Position: Neutral (Written)

Kansas State Board of Healing Arts (KSBHA) appreciates the opportunity to provide neutral testimony on HB 2295, the consideration of Anesthesiologist Assistants as a profession in Kansas. KSBHA licenses and regulates multiple health care professions. The mission of KSBHA is to safeguard the public and strengthen those who practice the healing arts.

Whether a profession should be regulated is a policy decision within the sole purview of the Legislature. If the Legislature determines it is appropriate policy to create this new regulated profession, KSBHA is an agency well suited to provide the administrative and regulatory oversight. Additionally, licensure would be the appropriate level of oversight for a medical profession that is able to significantly impact patient health.

KSBHA agency structure currently is designed to support professional councils and could quickly assimilate a professional council for a new Anesthesiologist Assistants profession if the Legislature determines it should be a regulated medical profession.

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Respectfully,

Kathleen Selzler Lippert, JD Executive Director, KSBHA