

Date: March 20, 2019

To: House Committee on Health and Human Services

From: Kevin J. Robertson, CAE
Executive Director

RE: Opposition to HB 2402 - WRITTEN

Chairman Landwehr and members of the Committee I am Kevin Robertson, executive director of the Kansas Dental Association (KDA) representing the state's 1,571 licensed dentists. Thanks for the opportunity to discuss with you the Kansas Dental Associations' thoughts on HB 2402.

The KDA believes healthcare works best when healthcare providers licensed and practicing in Kansas own medical practices. This promotes the public welfare and best ensures that the line of responsibility from the healthcare provider to the patient is not broken. As such, the **KDA is opposed to HB 2402 as introduced**. Though dental practices are not specifically included in HB 2402, history has shown that the statutes governing other healthcare providers often follow the trail first blazed by medicine even if they are poorly conceived.

The Kansas Dental Association encourages the Committee to support amendments offered to HB 2402 by the Kansas Medical Society (KMS). The KMS amendments would hold the corporate entities to the same legal and ethical standards as all licensed healthcare providers and would ensure that the relationship between the patient and provider is protected without undue influence from a corporate (or insurance) entity.

For these reasons, Kansas Dental Association opposes HB 2402 as written. Thank you for the opportunity to share the KDA's comments with you today.