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Kathleen Selzler Lippert, Executive Director

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To: Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee Chair, Senator Suellentrop:
From: Kathleen Selzler Lippert, JD, Executive Director
Kansas State Board of Healing Arts (KSBHA)
Date: March 18, 2019
Subject: SB 223 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 SB 223, 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.

Respectfully,

Kathleen Selzler Lippert, JD
Executive Director, KSBHA

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