



**Kansas PTA**  
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**January 19, 2020**

**Written Testimony to Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee  
Honorable Chair, Senator Gene Suellentrop**

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Room 441-E, State Capitol Building

**The Kansas PTA supports [Senate Bill 252](#) – expanding medical assistance eligibility and implementing a health insurance plan reinsurance program.**

Hearing: (proponents) Thursday, January 23, 2020, 9:30 AM Room 118-N

Honorable Chairman Suellentrop and Committee Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony in support of the bipartisan Senate Bill 252 on Medicaid expansion. Kansas PTA is a [nonpartisan](#) association that promotes the welfare of children and youth. The PTA does not endorse any candidate or political party. Rather, we advocate for policies and legislation that affect Kansas youth in alignment with our legislative platform and priorities. [Kansas PTA's mission and purpose](#) have remained the same since our inception over 100 years ago, focused on facilitating every child's potential and empowering families and communities to advocate for all children.

SB 252 is aligned with the Kansas Parent Teacher Association (PTA) Legislative Priority 10: Access to Affordable Quality Health Care. Kansas PTA supports efforts to develop and fund comprehensive health care access, including school-linked health clinics, and to provide equitable access to quality, affordable health care for all children. The Kansas PTA supports efforts that safeguard and promote the health and welfare of Kansas kids, allowing for learners to engage and make meaningful educational growth.

If passed, this bill could provide health care coverage for approximately 150,000 Kansans. Further, the Kansas Health Institute estimates that 25,000 uninsured children across the state are likely eligible for KanCare (2019, KHI 19-40). These school children across the state that are eligible but not participating are significantly more likely to gain access if their parents are eligible as well.

Again, we support SB 252 and are grateful for the work to bring a bi-partisan bill to start off the 2020 legislative session. We urge committee members to pass this bill out for consideration. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Lauri DeNooy, Kansas PTA President  
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