



To: House Committee on Health and Human Services
From: Denise Cyzman, CEO, Community Care Network of Kansas
RE: HB 2463
January 26, 2022

Chair Brenda Landwehr and Committee Members,

Thank you for the opportunity for Community Care to present written testimony in opposition of House Bill 2463, which would prohibiting changes to the medical assistance program and extend the current program structure.

Community Care represents a growing network of 34 community-based clinics that specialize in serving our most vulnerable Kansans. Last year, they served one in nine Kansans. The 328,032 patients seen by our members disproportionately represent the working poor, the uninsured and those who receive health coverage via Medicaid. Clinics provide whole-person care including medical, dental, pharmacy, mental health, substance use disorder, case management and wrap-around services to meet transportation and other social and economic needs.

The network of Community Care clinics has increasingly become a provider of choice for the Medicaid/CHIP population. Twenty-eight percent of clinic patients¹ are Medicaid/CHIP beneficiaries who now use these clinics as their primary care, behavioral health, or dental health home. As community-based clinics increasingly see more Medicaid/CHIP patients, they are rapidly changing the ways in which they work to meet the needs of this population.

As we read HB 2463, we see challenges this bill would create for our members working with state agencies to provide the best and most efficient health care to Medicaid/CHIP beneficiaries. Community Care Network of Kansas cannot support the bill as written. Prohibiting “any substantive or material change to the medical assistance program” would close the door to necessary innovation in managed care organization contracts and regulatory changes to state plan amendments and waivers that allow our members and other health care providers to best serve their communities. The COVID-19 pandemic has demonstrated how important it is for our health care system to be nimble and adaptable. HB 2463 not only discourages adaptability, but imposes an unnecessary and harmful rigidity to the system.

On behalf of Community Care member clinics, we thank you for the opportunity to share our opposition to HB 2463.

Thank you for your consideration.

¹ Includes data reported to Community Care’s Quality Reporting System by all 32 state-funded community-based primary care clinics and the Kansas Statewide Farmworker Health Program in 2020.