



House Health and Human Services Committee

Testimony in Support of Senate Bill 200

Presented by Christie Kriegshauser, Senior Director of Government Affairs, Kansas Chamber

Monday, March 14th, 2022

Dear Chair Landwehr and members of the Committee:

The Kansas Chamber represents small, medium and large businesses of all industry segments across the state. We appreciate the opportunity to testify in support of Senate Bill 200 which allows pharmacists to follow a protocol to both test and treat influenza, strep and urinary tract infections.

The Kansas Chamber Agenda states that we, “Support policies which eliminate government restrictions on medical professionals’ ability to perform duties within the scope of practice of their professional training”. Senate Bill 200 allows exactly that.

During the current strain on the health care system, it is more important than ever to provide additional options for Kansans to receive the health care they need. For many Kansans, pharmacists are easily accessible and close to home or work. Allowing for both testing and treatment of influenza, strep throat and urinary tract infections, these Kansans will be able to address health concerns before they cause additional complications because of lack of treatment.

Kansas employers are dedicated to helping maintain a healthy and thriving work force. Allowing the 3,490 pharmacists currently serving in Kansas to test and treat minor health concerns, Kansans will be able to address these conditions without unnecessary interruptions to their schedules or employment. With nearly 90% of Kansans living near a pharmacy, the increased accessibility of treatment for these minor conditions is significant.

Lack of access to health care can trigger extensive costs when minor illnesses are left untreated. By providing an easily accessible option for testing and treatment, Senate Bill 200 can help ensure Kansans, and Kansas employers, do not face needless medical expenses from influenza, strep and urinary tract infections.

We appreciate the opportunity to submit testimony in support of Senate Bill 200.