

Monica Kurylo, PhD, ABPP
8005 Hall
Lenexa, KS 66219
7 Feb 2022

Written Testimony
Senate Bill 387
February 7, 2022

Dear Chairman Hilderbrand and Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee,

My name is Monica Kurylo and I am writing in support of SB 387. This bill would require psychologists licensed in Kansas to have continuing education related to diversity, equity and inclusion. Many other states including Arizona, Connecticut, Maryland, Mississippi, New Jersey, New Mexico, Ohio, Rhode Island, and Texas require psychologists to participate in continuing education focused on diversity and cultural competency. I believe Kansas should join this list to demonstrate that our state and its licensed psychologists are committed to values related to diversity in all forms, including diversity in religious beliefs, physical and sensory (dis)ability, culture, age, ethnicity, gender, socioeconomic status, or any other ways in which unique experiences impact our lives.

As a psychologist dedicated to serving and meeting the mental health needs of Kansans who represent many identities, backgrounds and experiences, I believe it is critical that this education remain a constant in our professional lives. This education requirement will help ensure that Kansas psychologists are equipped and able to provide continued excellent care with a cultural humility lens that is needed for all. As we know, there are existing mental and physical health disparities that impact Kansans belonging to historically marginalized groups. To provide the best, caring, considerate and well-rounded mental health care to these groups and all Kansans, maintaining our education in all areas, especially diversity, is a necessity.

Thank you for your careful consideration,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "MKurylo PhD ABPP". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Monica Kurylo, PhD, ABPP