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**Testimony on Senate Bill 168
Public Health and Welfare Committee
Sarah Fertig, *State Medicaid Director*
Kansas Department of Health and Environment
February 10, 2022**

Chairman Hilderbrand and Members of the Committee:

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment Division of Health Care Finance (KDHE-DHCF) appreciates the opportunity to present neutral testimony concerning SB 168.

KDHE-DHCF does not have a position on the substance of the bill, but the agency would appreciate the committee allowing a friendly amendment to the bill that is designed to ensure KDHE will be able to comply with the federal SUPPORT Act.¹ The SUPPORT Act requires all Kansas Medicaid prescribers to check K-TRACS prior to prescribing a controlled substance to a Medicaid beneficiary. Beginning in fall 2022, KDHE will be required to make periodic reports to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) concerning our providers' compliance with that federal law.

KDHE-DHCF would respectfully request an amendment to Section 4(c)(5) to add "or practitioners" to the end of that section. This added language would authorize the agency to access information necessary to fulfill our CMS reporting requirements.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sarah Fertig
State Medicaid Director
Kansas Department of Health and Environment
Division of Health Care Finance

¹ Pub. L. 115-271. The text of the SUPPORT Act can be found at: [Text - H.R.6 - 115th Congress \(2017-2018\): SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act | Congress.gov | Library of Congress.](#)