



**An independent voice for
those served by KanCare.**

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Sen. Billinger and members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means; thank you for the opportunity to offer our support for SB 308.

The Kansas Advocates Network (KAN) is a coalition of more than 50 organizations and individuals who advocate on behalf of and serve and the 400,000 Kansans who depend upon the Kansas Medicaid program, KanCare, and its seven Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) waiver programs for their health care and long-term supports and services.

KAN joins other advocates in support of SB 308 which establishes a disability preference in statute for hiring and promoting within State civil service positions. If a person with a disability meets the qualifications for both the open position and disability preference, they would be given the opportunity to interview for the position. It is patterned off the veteran's preference allowed in K.S.A. 73-201.

Not only is the passage of this bill long overdue, it is the right thing to do to support all Kansans of all abilities. Individuals with disabilities are valuable employees and everyone benefits when they bring their skills and experiences to the workplace.

Our friend and colleague, Kathy Lobb, has been a determined advocate for this addition to state law and we strongly support what has become to be known as "Kathy's Law." We urge you to join us in support of SB 308. Thank you.

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KAN co-administrators