Session of 2024

SENATE BILL No. 355

By Committee on Ways and Means

1-17

AN ACT concerning health and healthcare; relating to health insurance 1 2 coverage; expanding medical assistance eligibility; enacting the cutting 3 healthcare costs for all Kansans act; directing the department of health 4 and environment to study certain medicaid expansion topics; adding 5 meeting days to the Robert G. (Bob) Bethell joint committee on home 6 and community based services and KanCare oversight to monitor 7 implementation of expanded medical assistance eligibility; amending 8 K.S.A. 39-7,160, 40-3213, 65-6207, 65-6210, 65-6211, 65-6212 and 9 65-6217 and K.S.A. 2023 Supp. 65-6208, 65-6209 and 65-6218 and 10 repealing the existing sections. 11 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas: 12 13 New Section 1. (a) Sections 1 through 13, and amendments thereto, 14 shall be known and may be cited as the cutting healthcare costs for all 15 Kansans act 16 (b) The legislature expressly consents to expand eligibility for receipt 17 of benefits under the Kansas program of medical assistance, as required by K.S.A. 39-709(e)(2), and amendments thereto, by the passage and 18 19 enactment of the act, subject to all requirements and limitations established 20 in the act. 21 (c) The secretary of health and environment shall adopt rules and 22 regulations as necessary to implement and administer the act. 23 (d) As used in sections 1 through 13, and amendments thereto, unless 24 otherwise specified: 25 (1) "138% of the federal poverty level," or words of like effect, 26 includes a 5% income disregard permitted under the federal patient 27 protection and affordable care act. 28 (2) "Act" means the cutting healthcare costs for all Kansans act. 29 New Sec. 2. (a) The secretary of health and environment shall submit 30 to the United States centers for medicare and medicaid services any state 31 plan amendment, waiver request or other approval request necessary to 32 implement the act. At least 10 calendar days prior to submission of any such approval request to the United States centers for medicare and 33 34 medicaid services, the secretary of health and environment shall submit 35 such approval request application to the state finance council. 36 (b) For purposes of eligibility determinations under the Kansas

1 program of medical assistance on and after January 1, 2025, medical 2 assistance shall be granted to any adult under 65 years of age who is not 3 pregnant and whose income meets the limitation established in subsection 4 (c), as permitted under the provisions of 42 U.S.C. § 1396a, as it exists on 5 the effective date of the act, and subject to a 90% federal medical 6 assistance percentage and all requirements and limitations established in 7 the act.

8 (c) The secretary of health and environment shall submit to the 9 United States centers for medicare and medicaid services any approval 10 request necessary to provide medical assistance eligibility to individuals 11 described in subsection (b) whose modified adjusted gross income does 12 not exceed 138% of the federal poverty level.

New Sec. 3. (a) The secretary of health and environment shall require each applicant for coverage under the act to provide employment verification at the time of initial application or renewal application. Such verification shall be a prerequisite for coverage under the act.

17 (b) "Employment verification" means documentation demonstrating 18 employment during the preceding 12 months that meets the eligibility 19 requirements of the act. "Employment verification" includes, but is not 20 limited to:

21 (1) Federal form W-2 wage and tax statement;

(2) a pay stub demonstrating gross income;

23 (3) employment records;

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24 (4) federal form 1099 demonstrating payments for contract labor;

25 (5) compliance with the requirements of K.S.A. 39-709(b), and 26 amendments thereto; and

(6) any other documentation as determined by the secretary of healthand environment.

(c) The following individuals shall be exempt from the requirementsof this subsection:

(1) A full-time student enrolled in a postsecondary educational
institution or technical college, as defined by K.S.A. 74-3201b, and
amendments thereto, for each year the student is enrolled in such
educational setting;

(2) a parent or guardian of a dependent child under 18 years of age or
 a parent or guardian of an incapacitated adult;

an individual who is mentally or physically unfit for employment,
as defined by the secretary of health and environment, or has a pending
application for supplemental security income or social security disability
insurance;

41 (4) an individual who has a permanent partial disability, as such term 42 is used in K.S.A. 44-510e, and amendments thereto;

43 (5) an individual who is engaged in volunteer work for at least 20

hours per week at a nonprofit organization, as such term is defined in
 K.S.A. 17-1779, and amendments thereto;

3 (6) an individual experiencing homelessness, as such term is defined 4 in 42 U.S.C. 11302, as in effect on the effective date of this act;

5 (7) an individual who served in the active military, naval, air or space 6 service and was discharged or released from such military service under 7 conditions other than dishonorable;

8 (8) an individual who is not more than 22 years of age and in the 9 custody of the secretary of children and families on the date that the 10 individual reached 18 years of age; and

11 (9) any individual who the secretary determines is experiencing 12 hardship.

New Sec. 4. (a) The secretary of health and environment may
 establish a health insurance coverage premium assistance program for
 individuals who meet the following requirements:

(1) The individual has an annual income that is 100% or greater than,
but does not exceed 138% of, the federal poverty level, based on the
modified adjusted gross income provisions set forth in section 2001(a)(1)
of the federal patient protection and affordable care act; and

(2) the individual is eligible for health insurance coverage through an
employer but cannot afford the health insurance coverage premiums, as
determined by the secretary of health and environment.

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(b) A program established under this section shall:

(1) Contain eligibility requirements that are the same as in sections 2and 3, and amendments thereto; and

(2) provide that an individual's payment for a health insurance coverage premium may not exceed 2% of the individual's modified adjusted gross income, not to exceed 2% of the household's modified adjusted gross income in the aggregate with any premium charged to any other household member participating in the premium assistance program.

31 New Sec. 5. (a) Except to the extent prohibited by 42 U.S.C. § 32 1396u-2(a)(2), as it exists on the effective date of this act, the secretary of 33 health and environment shall administer medical assistance benefits using 34 a managed care delivery system using organizations subject to assessment 35 of the privilege fee under K.S.A. 40-3213, and amendments thereto. If the 36 United States centers for medicare and medicaid services determines that 37 the assessment of a privilege fee provided in K.S.A. 40-3213, and 38 amendments thereto, is unlawful or otherwise invalid, then the secretary of 39 health and environment shall administer state medicaid services using a 40 managed care delivery system.

(b) In awarding a contract for an entity to administer state medicaid
 services using a managed care delivery system, the secretary of health and
 environment shall:

1 (1) Not provide favorable or unfavorable treatment in awarding a 2 contract based on an entity's for-profit or not-for-profit tax status;

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(2) give preference in awarding a contract to an entity that provides health insurance coverage plans on the health benefit exchange in Kansas established under the federal patient protection and affordable care act; and

6 (3) require that any entity administering state medicaid services 7 provide tiered benefit plans with enhanced benefits for covered individuals 8 who demonstrate healthy behaviors, as determined by the secretary of 9 health and environment, to be implemented on or before July 1, 2026.

10 New Sec. 6. If the federal medical assistance percentage for coverage of medical assistance participants described in section 1902(a)(10)(A)(i) 11 (VIII) of the federal social security act, 42 U.S.C. § 1396a, as it exists on 12 the effective date of this act, becomes lower than 90%, then the secretary 13 of health and environment shall terminate coverage under the act over a 14 12-month period, beginning on the first day that the federal medical 15 16 assistance percentage becomes lower than 90%. No individual shall be 17 newly enrolled for coverage under the act after such date.

New Sec. 7. (a) Section 6, and amendments thereto, shall be nonseverable from the remainder of the act. If the provisions of section 6, and amendments thereto, are not approved by the United States centers for medicare and medicaid services, then the act shall be null and void and shall have no force and effect.

(b) A denial of federal approval or federal financial participation that
 applies to any provision of the act not enumerated in subsection (a) shall
 not prohibit the secretary of health and environment from implementing
 any other provision of the act.

27 New Sec. 8. (a) On or before January 10, 2026, and on or before the 28 first day of the regular session of the legislature each year thereafter, the 29 secretary of health and environment shall prepare and deliver a report to the legislature that summarizes the cost savings achieved by the state from 30 31 the movement of covered individuals from the KanCare program to coverage under the act, including, but not limited to, the MediKan 32 33 program, the medically needy spend-down program and the breast and 34 cervical cancer program.

(b) State cost savings shall be determined by calculating the cost of
 providing services to covered individuals in the KanCare program less the
 cost of services provided to covered individuals under the act.

(c) If the secretary of health and environment implements other
 initiatives using cost savings achieved through the implementation of the
 act, the secretary shall include such initiatives as part of the report required
 in subsection (a).

42 New Sec. 9. (a) The secretary of corrections and the secretary of 43 health and environment shall coordinate with a county sheriff or such sheriff's deputy who requests assistance in facilitating medicaid coverage
 for any individual committed to a county jail or correctional facility
 during any time period that such individual is eligible for coverage under
 state or federal law.

5 (b) If an individual is enrolled in medicaid when such individual is 6 committed to a county jail or correctional facility, such medicaid status 7 shall not be suspended or terminated based on such individual's 8 incarceration for a minimum of 30 days. After 30 days, medicaid coverage 9 may be suspended, but not terminated, up to the maximum amount of time 10 permitted by state and federal law.

(c) The secretary of health and environment shall coordinate with a county sheriff or such sheriff's deputy and the department of corrections to assist any individual who is committed to a county jail or correctional facility in applying for medicaid coverage prior to such individual's release from custody if such individual is likely to meet the requirements for medicaid coverage to allow adequate time for medicaid coverage to begin promptly upon release.

(d) The secretary of health and environment shall adopt any rules and
 regulations and supporting policies and procedures as necessary to
 implement and administer this section prior to January 1, 2025.

New Sec. 10. On or before February 15, 2026, and on or before February 15 of each year thereafter, the secretary of health and environment shall present a report to the house of representatives standing committee on appropriations and the senate standing committee on ways and means that summarizes the costs of the act and the cost savings and additional revenues generated during the preceding fiscal year.

New Sec. 11. (a) The department of health and environment shall remit all moneys received by the department of health and environment from drug rebates associated with medical assistance enrollees to the state treasurer in accordance with the provisions of K.S.A. 75-4215, and amendments thereto. Upon receipt of each such remittance, the state treasurer shall deposit the entire amount into the state treasury to the credit of the state general fund.

(b) The department of health and environment shall certify the
amount of moneys received by such agency from drug rebates associated
with medical assistance enrollees on a monthly basis and shall transmit
each such certification to the director of legislative research and the
director of the budget.

(c) Upon receipt of each such certification, the director of legislative research and the director of the budget shall include such certified amount on any monthly report prepared by the legislative research department or the division of the budget that details state general fund receipts as a separate item entitled "drug rebates" under a category of other revenue 2 (d) This section shall take effect and be in force on and after July 1,3 2025.

4 New Sec. 12. (a) There is hereby established the rural health advisory 5 committee.

6 (b) The rural health advisory committee shall consist of 15 members 7 appointed by the governor. The membership shall be comprised of 8 individuals with a variety of backgrounds including medicine, education, 9 farming, finance, business and individuals representing community 10 interests in rural Kansas.

(c) The governor shall designate one of the appointed members to be
 chairperson of the committee. The members of the advisory committee
 shall select a vice chairperson from the membership of the advisory
 committee.

(d) Upon first appointment, five of the members shall serve for a term
of one year, five of the members shall be appointed for a term of two years
and five of the members shall be appointed for term of three years, as
designated by the governor. The member designated as chairperson shall
serve for a term of three years. Subsequent appointees shall serve terms of
three years.

(e) (1) The advisory committee may meet at any time and at any
place within the state on the call of the chairperson. The advisory
committee shall meet regularly, but shall meet at least once every calendar
quarter.

(2) A quorum of the advisory committee shall be eight voting
members. All actions of the advisory committee shall be adopted by a
majority of those voting members present when there is a quorum.

28 (f) The advisory committee shall:

29 (1) Advise the governor and other state agencies on rural health30 issues;

(2) recommend and evaluate mechanisms to encourage greatercooperation between rural communities and rural health providers;

33 (3) recommend and evaluate approaches to rural health issues that are34 sensitive to the needs of local communities;

(4) develop methods to identify individuals who are underserved bythe Kansas rural healthcare system; and

(5) beginning in 2025, provide an annual report to the governor
 containing the advice, recommendations and conclusions of the advisory
 committee.

40 (g) The secretary of health and environment shall facilitate the work
41 of the committee by providing access to meeting space and other necessary
42 staff and office support. The secretary of health and environment may
43 adopt any rules and regulations and supporting policies and procedures

¹ sources.

that are necessary to support the work of the advisory committee. 1

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New Sec. 13. The cutting healthcare costs for all Kansans act shall 3 not provide coverage for abortion services, except in cases where coverage

4 is mandated by federal law and federal financial participation is available.

5 Sec. 14. K.S.A. 39-7,160 is hereby amended to read as follows: 39-6 7,160. (a) There is hereby established the Robert G. (Bob) Bethell joint 7 committee on home and community based services and KanCare 8 oversight. The joint committee shall review the number of individuals who 9 are transferred from state or private institutions and long-term care 10 facilities to the home and community based services and the associated cost savings and other outcomes of the money-follows-the-person 11 12 program. The joint committee shall review the funding targets recommended by the interim report submitted for the 2007 legislature by 13 the joint committee on legislative budget and use them as guidelines for 14 future funding planning and policy making. The joint committee shall have 15 16 oversight of savings resulting from the transfer of individuals from state or 17 private institutions to home and community based services. As used in 18 K.S.A. 39-7,159 through 39-7,162, and amendments thereto, "savings" 19 means the difference between the average cost of providing services for 20 individuals in an institutional setting and the cost of providing services in a 21 home and community based setting. The joint committee shall study and 22 determine the effectiveness of the program and cost-analysis of the state 23 institutions or long-term care facilities based on the success of the transfer 24 of individuals to home and community based services. The joint 25 committee shall consider the issues of whether sufficient funding is 26 provided for enhancement of wages and benefits of direct individual care 27 workers and their staff training and whether adequate progress is being 28 made to transfer individuals from the institutions and to move them from 29 the waiver waiting lists to receive home and community based services. 30 The joint committee shall review and ensure that any proceeds resulting 31 from the successful transfer be applied to the system of provision of 32 services for long-term care and home and community based services. The 33 joint committee shall monitor and study the implementation and operations 34 of the home and community based service programs, the children's health 35 insurance program, the program for the all-inclusive care of the elderly 36 and the state medicaid programs including, but not limited to, access to 37 and quality of services provided and any financial information and 38 budgetary issues. Any state agency shall provide data and information on 39 KanCare programs, including, but not limited to, pay for performance 40 measures, quality measures and enrollment and disenrollment in specific 41 plans, KanCare provider network data and appeals and grievances made to 42 the KanCare ombudsman, to the joint committee, as requested.

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(b) The joint committee shall consist of 11 members of the legislature

appointed as follows: (1) Two members of the house committee on health 1 2 and human services appointed by the speaker of the house of 3 representatives; (2) one member of the house committee on health and 4 human services appointed by the minority leader of the house of 5 representatives; (3) two members of the senate committee on public health 6 and welfare appointed by the president of the senate; (4) one member of 7 the senate committee on public health and welfare appointed by the 8 minority leader of the senate; (5) two members of the house of 9 representatives appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives, 10 one of whom shall be a member of the house committee on appropriations; (6) one member of the house of representatives appointed by the minority 11 12 leader of the house of representatives; and (7) two members of the senate 13 appointed by the president of the senate, one of whom shall be a member 14 of the senate committee on ways and means.

15 (c) Members shall be appointed for terms coinciding with the 16 legislative terms for which such members are elected or appointed. All 17 members appointed to fill vacancies in the membership of the joint 18 committee and all members appointed to succeed members appointed to 19 membership on the joint committee shall be appointed in the manner 20 provided for the original appointment of the member succeeded.

21 (d) (1) The members originally appointed as members of the joint 22 committee shall meet upon the call of the member appointed by the 23 speaker of the house of representatives, who shall be the first chairperson, 24 within 30 days of the effective date of this act. The vice-chairperson of the 25 joint committee shall be appointed by the president of the senate. 26 Chairperson and vice-chairperson shall alternate annually between the 27 members appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives and the 28 president of the senate. The ranking minority member shall be from the same chamber as the chairperson. On and after the effective date of this act 29 30 *Except as provided in paragraph (2)*, the joint committee shall meet at 31 least once in January and once in April when the legislature is in regular 32 session and at least once for two consecutive days during each of the third 33 and fourth calendar quarters, on the call of the chairperson, but not to 34 exceed six meetings in a calendar year, except additional meetings may be 35 held on call of the chairperson when urgent circumstances exist which 36 require such meetings. Six members of the joint committee shall constitute 37 a quorum.

(2) During calendar year 2025 and calendar year 2026, the joint
committee shall meet for one additional day per meeting pursuant to
paragraph (1) in order to monitor the implementation of the cutting
healthcare costs for all Kansans act and to review the following topics
relating to such implementation: Payment integrity and eligibility audits;
outcomes related to section 3, and amendments thereto; health outcomes

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1 for individuals covered under the act; budget projections and actual 2 expenditures related to implementation of the act; and expenses incurred 3 by hospitals arising from charity care and services provided to patients 4 who are unwilling or unable to pay for such services.

(e) (1) At the beginning of each regular session of the legislature, the 5 6 committee shall submit to the president of the senate, the speaker of the 7 house of representatives, the house committee on health and human 8 services and the senate committee on public health and welfare a written 9 report on numbers of individuals transferred from the state or private 10 institutions to the home and community based services including the average daily census in the state institutions and long-term care facilities, 11 12 savings resulting from the transfer certified by the secretary for aging and 13 disability services in a quarterly report filed in accordance with K.S.A. 39-7,162, and amendments thereto, and the current balance in the home and 14 15 community based services savings fund of the Kansas department for 16 aging and disability services.

17 (2) Such report submitted under this subsection shall also include, but 18 not be limited to, the following information on the KanCare program:

19 (A) Quality of care and health outcomes of individuals receiving state 20 medicaid services under the KanCare program, as compared to the 21 provision of state medicaid services prior to January 1, 2013;

22 (B) integration and coordination of health care procedures for 23 individuals receiving state medicaid services under the KanCare program;

24 (C) availability of information to the public about the provision of 25 state medicaid services under the KanCare program, including, but not limited to, accessibility to health services, expenditures for health services. 26 27 extent of consumer satisfaction with health services provided and 28 grievance procedures, including quantitative case data and summaries of 29 case resolution by the KanCare ombudsman;

(D) provisions for community outreach and efforts to promote the 30 31 public understanding of the KanCare program;

32 (E) comparison of the actual medicaid costs expended in providing 33 state medicaid services under the KanCare program after January 1, 2013, 34 to the actual costs expended under the provision of state medicaid services 35 prior to January 1, 2013, including the manner in which such cost 36 expenditures are calculated;

37 (F) comparison of the estimated costs expended in a managed care 38 system of providing state medicaid services under the KanCare program 39 after January 1, 2013, to the actual costs expended under the KanCare 40 program of providing state medicaid services after January 1, 2013;

41 (G) comparison of caseload information for individuals receiving 42 state medicaid services prior to January 1, 2013, to the caseload 43 information for individuals receiving state medicaid services under the

1 KanCare program after January 1, 2013; and

2 (H) all written testimony provided to the joint committee regarding
3 the impact of the provision of state medicaid services under the KanCare
4 program upon residents of adult care homes.

5 (3) The joint committee shall consider the external quality review 6 reports and quality assessment and performance improvement program 7 plans of each managed care organization providing state medicaid services 8 under the KanCare program in the development of the report submitted 9 under this subsection.

10 (4) The report submitted under this subsection shall be published on11 the official website of the legislative research department.

(f) Members of the committee shall have access to any medical assistance report and caseload data generated by the Kansas department of health and environment division of health care finance. Members of the committee shall have access to any report submitted by the Kansas department of health and environment division of health care finance to the centers for medicare and medicaid services of the United States department of health and human services.

(g) Members of the committee shall be paid compensation, travel
expenses and subsistence expenses or allowance as provided in K.S.A. 753212, and amendments thereto, for attendance at any meeting of the joint
committee or any subcommittee meeting authorized by the committee.

(h) In accordance with K.S.A. 46-1204, and amendments thereto, the
 legislative coordinating council may provide for such professional services
 as may be requested by the joint committee.

(i) The joint committee may make recommendations and introducelegislation as it deems necessary in performing its functions.

28 Sec. 15. K.S.A. 40-3213 is hereby amended to read as follows: 40-29 3213. (a) Every health maintenance organization and medicare provider 30 organization subject to this act shall pay to the commissioner the following 31 fees:

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For filing an application for a certificate of authority, \$150;
 for filing each annual report, \$50; *and*

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(3) for filing an amendment to the certificate of authority, \$10.

35 (b) Every health maintenance organization subject to this act shall 36 pay annually to the commissioner at the time such organization files its 37 annual report, a privilege fee in an amount equal to the following-38 percentages 5.77% of the total of all premiums, subscription charges or 39 any other term that may be used to describe the charges made by such 40 organization to enrollees: 3.31% during the reporting period beginning-41 January 1, 2015, and ending December 31, 2017; and 5.77% on and after 42 January 1, 2018. In such computations all such organizations shall be 43 entitled to deduct therefrom any premiums or subscription charges

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returned on account of cancellations and dividends returned to enrollees. If the commissioner shall determine at any time that the application of the privilege fee, or a change in the rate of the privilege fee, would cause a denial of, reduction in or elimination of federal financial assistance to the state or to any health maintenance organization subject to this act, the

commissioner is hereby authorized to terminate the operation of such

7 privilege fee or the change in such privilege fee. 8 (c) For the purpose of insuring the collection of the privilege fee 9 provided for by subsection (b), every health maintenance organization subject to this act and required by subsection (b) to pay such privilege fee 10 shall at the time it files its annual report, as required by K.S.A. 40-3220, 11 12 and amendments thereto, make a return, generated by or at the direction of 13 its chief officer or principal managing director, under penalty of K.S.A. 21-5824, and amendments thereto, to the commissioner, stating the amount 14 of all premiums, assessments and charges received by the health 15 16 maintenance organization, whether in cash or notes, during the year ending 17 on the last day of the preceding calendar year. Upon the receipt of such returns the commissioner of insurance shall verify such returns and 18 19 reconcile the fees pursuant to subsection (f) upon such organization on the 20 basis and at the rate provided in this section.

(d) Premiums or other charges received by an insurance company
from the operation of a health maintenance organization subject to this act
shall not be subject to any fee or tax imposed under the provisions of
K.S.A. 40-252, and amendments thereto.

(e) Fees charged under this section shall be remitted to the state treasurer in accordance with the provisions of K.S.A. 75-4215, and amendments thereto. Upon receipt of each such remittance, the state treasurer shall deposit the entire amount in the state treasury to the credit of the medical assistance fee fund created by K.S.A. 40-3236, and amendments thereto.

31 (f) (1) On and after January 1, 2018. In addition to any other filing or 32 return required by this section, each health maintenance organization shall 33 submit a report to the commissioner on or before March 31 and September 34 30 of each year containing an estimate of the total amount of all premiums, 35 subscription charges or any other term that may be used to describe the 36 charges made by such organization to enrollees that the organization 37 expects to collect during the current calendar year. Upon filing each March 38 31 report, the organization shall submit payment equal to $\frac{1}{2}$ of the 39 privilege fee that would be assessed by the commissioner for the current 40 calendar year based upon the organization's reported estimate. Upon filing each September 30 report, the organization shall submit payment equal to 41 the balance of the privilege fee that would be assessed by the 42 43 commissioner for the current calendar year based upon the organization's

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1 reported estimates.

(2) Any amount of privilege fees actually owed by a health
maintenance organization during any calendar year in excess of estimated
privilege fees paid shall be assessed by the commissioner and shall be due
and payable upon issuance of such assessment.

6 (3) Any amount of estimated privilege fees paid by a health 7 maintenance organization during any calendar year in excess of privilege 8 fees actually owed shall be reconciled when the commissioner assesses 9 privilege fees in the ensuing calendar year. The commissioner shall credit such excess amount against future privilege fee assessments. Any such 10 excess amount paid by a health maintenance organization that is no longer 11 12 doing business in Kansas and that no longer has a duty to pay the privilege fee shall be refunded by the commissioner from funds appropriated by the 13 14 legislature for such purpose.

Sec. 16. K.S.A. 65-6207 is hereby amended to read as follows: 65-6207. As used in K.S.A. 65-6207–to *through* 65-6220,–inclusive, and amendments thereto, the following have the meaning respectively ascribed thereto, unless the context requires otherwise:

(a) "Annual hospital medicaid expansion surcharge" means the
 product of the number of unduplicated medicaid expansion enrollees
 multiplied by \$233.

(b) "Assessment revenues" means the revenues generated directly by the assessment and surcharge imposed by K.S.A. 65-6208 and 65-6213, and amendments thereto, any penalty assessments and all interest credited to the fund under this act and any federal matching funds obtained through the use of such assessments, surcharges, penalties and interest amounts.

(c) "Department" means the Kansas department for aging and
 disability services or the Kansas department of health and environment, or
 both.

(b)(d) "Fund" means the health care access improvement fund.

32 (e)(e) "Health maintenance organization" has the meaning means the
 33 same as provided in K.S.A. 40-3202, and amendments thereto.

(d)(f) "Hospital"-has the meaning means the same as provided in K.S.A. 65-425, and amendments thereto.

36 (e)(g) "Hospital provider" means a person licensed by the department 37 of health and environment to operate, conduct or maintain a hospital, 38 regardless of whether the person is a federal medicaid provider.

39 (f)(h) "Pharmacy provider" means an area, premises or other site 40 where drugs are offered for sale, where there are pharmacists, as defined in 41 K.S.A. 65-1626, and amendments thereto, and where prescriptions, as 42 defined in K.S.A. 65-1626, and amendments thereto, are compounded and 43 dispensed.

(g) "Assessment revenues" means the revenues generated directly by 1 the assessments imposed by K.S.A. 65-6208 and 65-6213, and 2 amendments thereto, any penalty assessments and all interest credited to 3 the fund under this act, and any federal matching funds obtained through 4 the use of such assessments, penalties and interest amounts 5

6 (i) "Unduplicated medicaid expansion enrollee" means each 7 individual who becomes eligible for and enrolls in the Kansas program of 8 medical assistance under K.S.A. 39-709, and amendments thereto, and is 9 eligible for a 90% federal medical assistance percentage pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1396d(y)(1). 10

Sec. 17. K.S.A. 2023 Supp. 65-6208 is hereby amended to read as 11 12 follows: 65-6208. (a) Subject to the provisions of K.S.A. 65-6209, and amendments thereto, an annual assessment on services is imposed on each 13 hospital provider in an amount not less than 1.83% of each hospital's net 14 15 inpatient operating revenue and not greater than 3% of each hospital's net 16 inpatient and outpatient operating revenue, as determined by the healthcare 17 access improvement panel in consultation with the department of health 18 and environment, for the hospital's fiscal year three years prior to the 19 assessment year. In the event that a hospital does not have a complete 12-20 month fiscal year in such third prior fiscal year, the assessment under this 21 section shall be \$200,000 until such date that such hospital has completed 22 the hospital's first 12-month fiscal year. Upon completing such first 12-23 month fiscal year, such hospital's assessment under this section shall be the amount not less than 1.83% of each hospital's net inpatient operating 24 25 revenue and not greater than 3% of such hospital's net inpatient and 26 outpatient operating revenue, as determined by the healthcare access 27 improvement panel in consultation with the department of health and 28 environment, for such first completed 12-month fiscal year.

29 (b) (1) On and after January 1, 2027, an annual hospital medicaid 30 expansion support surcharge shall be imposed on each hospital provider 31 in an amount equal to its proportionate share as determined by the 32 healthcare access improvement panel in accordance with K.S.A. 65-33 6218(d), and amendments thereto, except that such surcharge shall not 34 exceed \$35,000,000 for any calendar year and no surcharge shall be 35 imposed for any period after the federal medical assistance percentage described in 42 U.S.C. § 1396d(y)(1) is lower than 90%. Upon final 36 37 approval by the United States centers for medicare and medicaid services, 38 notice of the amount of such surcharge shall be transmitted by the 39 healthcare access improvement panel to the department. Upon receipt of such notice, the department shall promptly provide notice to each hospital 40 provider in accordance with K.S.A. 65-6211(b), and amendments thereto. 41 (2) The department of health and environment shall submit to the 42

43 United States centers for medicare and medicaid services any approval request necessary to implement the surcharge authorized by this
 subsection and shall not impose such surcharge prior to receiving
 approval by the United States centers for medicare and medicaid services
 and publishing such approval.

5 (c) Nothing in this act shall be construed to authorize any home rule 6 unit or other unit of local government to license for revenue or impose a 7 tax or assessment upon hospital providers or a tax or assessment measured 8 by the income or earnings of a hospital provider.

9 (e)(d) (1) The department of health and environment shall submit to 10 the United States centers for medicare and medicaid services any approval request necessary to implement the amendments made to subsection (a) by 11 section 1 of chapter 7 of the 2020 Session Laws of Kansas and this act. If 12 13 the department has submitted such a request pursuant to section 80(1) of 14 chapter 68 of the 2019 Session Laws of Kansas or section 1 of chapter 7 of 15 the 2020 Session Laws of Kansas, then the department may continue such 16 request, or modify such request to conform to the amendments made to subsection (a) by section 1 of chapter 7 of the 2020 Session Laws of 17 18 Kansas and this act, to fulfill the requirements of this paragraph.

19 (2) The secretary of health and environment shall certify to the 20 secretary of state the receipt of such approval and cause notice of such 21 approval to be published in the Kansas register.

(3) The amendments made to subsection (a) by section 1 of chapter 7
of the 2020 Session Laws of Kansas and this act shall take effect on and
after January 1 or July 1 immediately following such publication of such
approval.

26 Sec. 18. K.S.A. 2023 Supp. 65-6209 is hereby amended to read as 27 follows: 65-6209. (a) A hospital provider that is a state agency, the 28 authority, as defined in K.S.A. 76-3304, and amendments thereto, a state 29 educational institution, as defined in K.S.A. 76-711, and amendments 30 thereto, a critical access hospital, as defined in K.S.A. 65-468, and 31 amendments thereto, or a rural emergency hospital licensed under the rural emergency hospital act, K.S.A. 2023 Supp. 65-481 et seq., and 32 33 amendments thereto, is exempt from the assessment imposed by K.S.A. 34 65-6208(a), and amendments thereto, but not the surcharge imposed by 35 K.S.A. 65-6208(b), and amendments thereto.

(b) A hospital operated by the department in the course of performing
its mental health or developmental disabilities functions is exempt from
the assessment imposed by K.S.A. 65-6208(*a*), and amendments thereto, *but not the surcharge imposed by K.S.A.* 65-6208(*b*), and amendments *thereto.*

41 Sec. 19. K.S.A. 65-6210 is hereby amended to read as follows: 65-42 6210. (a) The assessment imposed by K.S.A. 65-6208*(a)*, and amendments 43 thereto, for any state fiscal year to which this statute applies shall be due and payable in equal installments on or before June 30 and December 31,
 commencing with whichever date first occurs after the hospital has
 received payments for 150 days after the effective date of the payment
 methodology approved by the centers for medicare and medicaid services.
 The surcharge imposed by K.S.A. 65-6208(b), and amendments thereto, for

6 any state fiscal year to which this statute applies shall be due and payable 7 in installments on or before June 30 and December 31, commencing with 8 June 30, 2027. The payment made by each hospital provider on or before 9 June 30 shall be in an amount not less than $\frac{1}{3}$ of such hospital provider's proportionate share determined in accordance with K.S.A. 65-6218(d), 10 and amendments thereto. The payment made by each hospital provider on 11 12 or before December 31 shall be the remainder of the amount owed for 13 such hospital provider's proportionate share. No installment payment of 14 an assessment under this act shall be due and payable, however, until after:

15 (1) The hospital provider receives written notice from the department 16 that the payment methodologies to hospitals required under this act have 17 been approved by the centers for medicare and medicaid services of the 18 United States department of health and human services under 42 C.F.R. § 19 433.68 for the assessment imposed by K.S.A. 65-6208, and amendments 10 thereto, has been granted by the centers for medicare and medicaid 11 services of the United States department of health and human services; and 12 (2) in the assess of a hospital provider the hospital has received

(2) in the case of a hospital provider, the hospital has received
 payments for 150 days after the effective date of the payment methodology
 approved by the centers for medicare and medicaid services.

(b) The department is authorized to establish delayed payment schedules for hospital providers that are unable to make installment payments when due under this section due to financial difficulties, as determined by the department.

(c) If a hospital provider fails to pay the full amount of an installment
when due, including any extensions granted under this section, there shall
be added to the assessment *or surcharge* imposed by K.S.A. 65-6208(*a*) *or*(*b*), and amendments thereto, unless waived by the department for
reasonable cause, a penalty assessment equal to the lesser of:

(1) An amount equal to 5% of the installment amount not paid on or
before the due date plus 5% of the portion thereof remaining unpaid on the
last day of each month thereafter; or

37 (2) an amount equal to 100% of the installment amount not paid on or38 before the due date.

For purposes of subsection (c), payments will be credited first to unpaid
installment amounts, rather than to penalty or interest amounts, beginning
with the most delinquent installment.

42 (d) The effective date for the payment methodology applicable to 43 hospital providers approved by the centers for medicare and medicaid services shall be the date of July 1 or January 1, whichever date is
 designated in the state plan submitted by the department of health and
 environment for approval by the centers for medicare and medicaid
 services.

5 Sec. 20. K.S.A. 65-6211 is hereby amended to read as follows: 65-6 6211. (a) After December 31 of each year, except as otherwise provided in 7 this subsection, and on or before March 31 of the succeeding year, the 8 department shall send a notice of assessment imposed under K.S.A. 65-9 6208(a), and amendments thereto, to every hospital provider subject to assessment under this act. (b) The hospital provider notice of assessment 10 11 shall notify the hospital provider of its assessment for the state fiscal year 12 commencing on the next July 1.

13 (b) On or before April 30 and October 31 of each year, the 14 department shall send a notice of surcharge imposed under K.S.A. 65-15 6208(b), and amendments thereto, to each hospital provider subject to the 16 surcharge. The department shall send the first such notice on or before 17 April 30, 2027.

18 (c) If a hospital provider operates, conducts or maintains more than 19 one licensed hospital in the state, the hospital provider shall pay-the *any* 20 assessment *or surcharge imposed under K.S.A.* 65-6208(*a*) *or* (*b*), *and* 21 *amendments thereto*, for each hospital separately.

22 (d) Notwithstanding any other provision in this act, in the case of a 23 person who ceases to operate, conduct or maintain a hospital-in respect of 24 for which the person is subject to assessment in K.S.A. 65-6208(a), and 25 amendments thereto, as a hospital provider, the assessment for the state 26 fiscal year in which the cessation occurs shall be adjusted by multiplying the assessment computed under K.S.A. 65-6208(a), and amendments 27 28 thereto, by a fraction, the numerator of which is the number of the days 29 during the year during which the provider operates, conducts or maintains 30 a hospital and the denominator of which is 365. Immediately upon ceasing 31 to operate, conduct or maintain a hospital, the person shall pay the 32 adjusted assessment for that state fiscal year, to the extent not previously 33 paid.

34 (e) Notwithstanding any other provision in this act, in the case of a 35 person who ceases to operate, conduct or maintain a hospital for which 36 the person is subject to surcharge in K.S.A. 65-6208(b), and amendments 37 thereto, as a hospital provider, the surcharge for the six-month period in 38 which the cessation occurs shall be adjusted by multiplying the surcharge 39 computed under K.S.A. 65-6208(b), and amendments thereto, by a 40 fraction, the numerator of which is the number of the days during the six 41 months during which the provider operates, conducts or maintains a 42 hospital and the denominator of which is the days in the same six-month 43 period. Immediately upon ceasing to operate, conduct or maintain a

1 hospital, the person shall pay the adjusted assessment for that six-month 2 period, to the extent not previously paid.

3 (f) Notwithstanding any other provision in this act, a person who 4 commences operating, conducting or maintaining a hospital shall pay the 5 assessment computed under subsection (a) of K.S.A. 65-6208(a), and 6 amendments thereto, in installments on the due dates stated in the notice 7 and on the regular installment due dates for the state fiscal year occurring 8 after the due dates of the initial notice.

9 Sec. 21. K.S.A. 65-6212 is hereby amended to read as follows: 65-10 6212. (a) The assessment imposed by K.S.A. 65-6208(a), and amendments thereto, shall not take effect or shall cease to be imposed and any moneys 11 12 remaining in the fund attributable to assessments imposed under K.S.A. 13 65-6208(a), and amendments thereto, shall be refunded to hospital providers in proportion to the amounts paid by them if the payments to 14 15 hospitals required under-subsection (a) of K.S.A. 65-6218(a), and 16 amendments thereto, are changed or are not eligible for federal matching 17 funds under title XIX or XXI of the federal social security act.

18 (b) The assessment and surcharge imposed by K.S.A. 65-6208(a) 19 and (b), and-amendments thereto, shall not take effect or shall cease to be 20 imposed if the assessment is determined to be an impermissible tax under 21 title XIX of the federal social security act. Moneys in the health care 22 access improvement fund or the hospital medicaid expansion support 23 surcharge fund derived from assessments or surcharges imposed prior 24 thereto shall be disbursed in accordance with subsection (a) of K.S.A. 65-25 6218(a) or (b), and amendments thereto, to the extent that federal 26 matching is not reduced due to the impermissibility of the assessments or 27 surcharges, and any remaining moneys shall be refunded to hospital 28 providers in proportion to the amounts paid by them.

29 Sec. 22. K.S.A. 65-6217 is hereby amended to read as follows: 65-30 6217. (a) There is hereby created in the state treasury the health care 31 access improvement fund, which. Such fund shall be administered by the 32 secretary of health and environment. All moneys received for the 33 assessments imposed by K.S.A. 65-6208(a) and 65-6213, and amendments 34 thereto, including any penalty assessments imposed thereon, shall be 35 remitted to the state treasurer in accordance with K.S.A. 75-4215, and 36 amendments thereto. Upon receipt of each such remittance, the state 37 treasurer shall deposit the entire amount in the state treasury to the credit 38 of the health care access improvement fund. All expenditures from the 39 health care access improvement fund shall be made in accordance with 40 appropriation acts upon warrants of the director of accounts and reports 41 issued pursuant to vouchers approved by the secretary of health and environment or the secretary's designee. 42

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(b) There is hereby created in the state treasury the hospital medicaid

1 expansion support surcharge fund to be administered by the secretary of

2 health and environment. All moneys received for the surcharge imposed by K.S.A. 65-6208(b), and amendments thereto, including any penalty 3 4 assessments imposed thereon, shall be remitted to the state treasurer in 5 accordance with K.S.A. 75-4215, and amendments thereto. Upon receipt of 6 each such remittance, the state treasurer shall deposit the entire amount 7 into the state treasury to the credit of the hospital medicaid expansion support surcharge fund. All expenditures from the hospital medicaid 8 expansion support surcharge fund shall be made in accordance with 9 appropriation acts upon warrants of the director of accounts and reports 10 issued pursuant to vouchers approved by the secretary of health and 11 12 environment or the secretary's designee.

(c) The fund funds shall not be used to replace any moneys
 appropriated by the legislature for the department's medicaid program.

15 (c)(d) The-fund is funds are created for the purpose of receiving 16 moneys in accordance with this act and disbursing moneys only for the 17 purpose of improving health care delivery and related health activities, 18 notwithstanding any other provision of law.

19 (d)(e) On or before the 10th day of each month, the director of 20 accounts and reports shall transfer from the state general fund to the health 21 care access improvement fund *and the hospital medicaid expansion* 22 *support surcharge fund* interest earnings based on:

(1) The average daily balance of moneys in-the health care access improvement each such fund for the preceding month; and

(2) the net earnings rate of the pooled money investment portfolio forthe preceding month.

27

(e)(f) The-fund funds shall consist of the following:

(1) All moneys collected or received by the department from the
 hospital provider assessment *and surcharge* and the health maintenance
 organization assessment imposed by this act;

31 (2) any interest or penalty levied in conjunction with the 32 administration of this act; and

(3) all other moneys received for the-fund *funds* from any other
 source.

35 (f)(g) (1) On July 1 of each fiscal year, the director of accounts and 36 reports shall record a debit to the state treasurer's receivables for the health 37 care access improvement fund and shall record a corresponding credit to 38 the health care access improvement fund in an amount certified by the 39 director of the budget-which that shall be equal to the sum of 80% of the 40 moneys estimated by the director of the budget to be received from the 41 assessment imposed on hospital providers pursuant to K.S.A. 65-6208(a), and amendments thereto, and credited to the health care access 42 43 improvement fund during such fiscal year, plus 53% of the moneys

estimated by the director of the budget to be received from the assessment 1 2 imposed on health maintenance organizations pursuant to K.S.A. 65-6213, and amendments thereto, and credited to the health care access 3 4 improvement fund during such fiscal year, except that such amount shall 5 be proportionally adjusted during such fiscal year with respect to any 6 change in the moneys estimated by the director of the budget to be 7 received for such assessments under K.S.A. 65-6208(a) and 65-6213, and 8 amendments thereto, deposited in the state treasury and credited to the 9 health care access improvement fund during such fiscal year. Among other appropriate factors, the director of the budget shall take into consideration 10 the estimated and actual receipts from such assessments for the current 11 12 fiscal year and the preceding fiscal year in determining the amount to be certified under this-subsection (f) paragraph. All moneys received for the 13 assessments imposed pursuant to K.S.A. 65-6208(a) and 65-6213, and 14 15 amendments thereto, deposited in the state treasury and credited to the 16 health care access improvement fund during a fiscal year shall reduce the 17 amount debited and credited to the health care access improvement fund under this subsection (f) paragraph for such fiscal year. 18

19 (2) On July 1 of each fiscal year, the director of accounts and reports 20 shall record a debit to the state treasurer's receivables for the hospital 21 medicaid expansion support surcharge fund and shall record a 22 corresponding credit to the hospital medicaid expansion support 23 surcharge fund in an amount certified by the director of the budget that shall be equal to 100% of the moneys estimated by the director of the 24 25 budget to be received from any surcharge imposed on hospital providers in accordance with K.S.A. 65-6208(b), and amendments thereto, and credited 26 27 to the hospital medicaid expansion support surcharge fund during such 28 fiscal year, except that such amount shall be proportionally adjusted 29 during such fiscal year with respect to any change in the moneys estimated by the director of the budget to be received for such surcharge in 30 31 accordance with K.S.A. 65-6208(b), and amendments thereto, deposited in 32 the state treasury and credited to the hospital medicaid expansion support 33 surcharge fund during such fiscal year. Among other appropriate factors, 34 the director of the budget shall take into consideration the estimated and 35 actual receipts from such surcharge for the current fiscal year and the 36 preceding fiscal year in determining the amount to be certified under this 37 paragraph. All moneys received for the surcharge imposed under K.S.A. 38 65-6208(b), and amendments thereto, deposited in the state treasury and 39 credited to the hospital medicaid expansion support surcharge fund during 40 a fiscal year shall reduce the amount debited and credited to the hospital 41 medicaid expansion support surcharge fund under this paragraph for such 42 fiscal year.

43 (3) On June 30 of each fiscal year, the director of accounts and

1 reports shall adjust the amounts debited and credited to the state treasurer's 2 receivables and to the health care access improvement fund and the 3 hospital medicaid expansion support surcharge fund pursuant to this 4 subsection (f), to reflect all moneys actually received for the assessments 5 and surcharge imposed pursuant to K.S.A. 65-6208 and 65-6213, and 6 amendments thereto, deposited in the state treasury and credited to the 7 health care access improvement fund and the hospital medicaid expansion 8 support surcharge fund during the current fiscal year.

9 (3)(4) The director of accounts and reports shall notify the state treasurer of all amounts debited and credited to the health care access 10 improvement fund and the hospital medicaid expansion support surcharge 11 fund pursuant to this subsection (f) and all reductions and adjustments 12 thereto made pursuant to this subsection-(f). The state treasurer shall enter 13 14 all such amounts debited and credited and shall make reductions and adjustments thereto on the books and records kept and maintained for the 15 16 health care access improvement fund by the state treasurer in accordance 17 with the notice thereof

Sec. 23. K.S.A. 2023 Supp. 65-6218 is hereby amended to read as follows: 65-6218. (a) (1) Assessment revenues generated from the hospital provider assessments *under K.S.A. 65-6208(a), and amendments thereto,* shall be disbursed as follows:

(A) Not less than 80% of assessment revenues shall be disbursed to
 hospital providers through a combination of medicaid access improvement
 payments and increased medicaid rates on designated diagnostic related
 groupings, procedures or codes;

(B) not more than 20% of assessment revenues shall be disbursed to
 providers who are persons licensed to practice medicine and surgery or
 dentistry through increased medicaid rates on designated procedures and
 codes; and

30 (C) not more than 3.2% of hospital provider assessment revenues 31 shall be used to fund healthcare access improvement programs in 32 undergraduate, graduate or continuing medical education, including the 33 medical student loan act.

34 (2) On July 1 of each year, the department of health and environment, 35 with approval of the healthcare access improvement panel, shall make 36 adjustments to the disbursement of moneys in accordance with this 37 subsection to cause such disbursements to be paid solely from moneys 38 appropriated from the healthcare access improvement fund. The healthcare 39 access improvement fund shall not be supplemented by appropriations 40 from the state general fund for the purpose of making disbursements under 41 this subsection.

42 (b) Surcharge revenues generated from the hospital medicaid 43 expansion support surcharge under K.S.A. 65-6208(b), and amendments 1 thereto, shall be disbursed to offset the costs to the state related to 2 medicaid expansion beneficiaries as calculated in K.S.A. 65-6207(a), and 3 amendments thereto.

4 (c) For the purposes of administering and selecting the disbursements 5 described in subsections subsection (a) and (b), oversight of the 6 calculation of the annual hospital medicaid expansion support payment 7 and any surcharge under K.S.A. 65-6208(b), and amendments thereto, the healthcare access improvement panel is hereby established. The panel shall 8 9 consist of the following: Three members appointed by the Kansas hospital association, two members appointed by the Kansas medical society, one 10 member appointed by each health maintenance organization that has a 11 12 medicaid managed care contract with the department of health and environment, one member appointed by the community care network of 13 14 Kansas, one member appointed by the president of the senate, one member 15 appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives, one member 16 from the office of the medicaid inspector general appointed by the attorney general and one representative of the department of health and 17 18 environment appointed by the governor. The panel shall elect a 19 chairperson from among the members appointed by the Kansas hospital association. A representative of the panel shall be required to make an 20 21 annual report to the legislature regarding the collection and distribution of 22 all funds received and distributed under this act, and such report shall 23 include analysis demonstrating that disbursements made in accordance 24 with subsection (a) are budget neutral to the state general fund.

(c)(d) The panel shall use the following procedure to approve
collection of surcharge revenues under K.S.A. 65-6208(b), and
amendments thereto, for each calendar year beginning with calendar year
2027 based upon the total number of unduplicated medicaid expansion
enrollees for such year:

(1) By March 31 and September 30, the department shall certify to
 the panel the total number of unduplicated medicaid expansion enrollees
 using data from the most recent end-of- month report.

(2) The panel shall review the number certified by the department,
 consult with the department regarding any proposed deletions and certify
 the final number of unduplicated medicaid expansion enrollees by April 15
 and October 15.

(3) Each hospital's share of the annual hospital medicaid expansion
support surcharge shall be determined by the panel based upon such
hospital's proportion of total hospital revenues. The panel shall certify to
the department the amount of each hospital's surcharge by April 30 and
October 31. The surcharge for any hospital that has not yet filed a
medicare cost report shall pay the lowest surcharge payable by its hospital
licensure category as defined by K.S.A. 65-425, and amendments thereto.

1 (4) For purposes of this subsection, the total surcharge revenues to 2 be certified for any calendar year shall not exceed \$35,000,000, and any 3 annual hospital medicaid expansion support surcharge in excess of 4 \$35,000,000 shall be disregarded.

5

(5) As used in this subsection:

6 (A) "Total hospital revenues" means the sum of inpatient and 7 outpatient revenues for all hospital providers as reflected in the applicable 8 medicare cost report.

9 (B) "Applicable medicare cost report" means, for calendar year 10 2025, such report filed by each hospital for calendar year 2023 or, if the 11 hospital did not file a medicare cost report for calendar year 2023, the 12 first year that the hospital filed a medicare cost report. For each calendar 13 year after 2025, the applicable medicare cost report shall advance by one 14 year.

15 (1)(e) The department of health and environment shall submit to the 16 United States centers for medicare and medicaid services any approval 17 request necessary to implement the amendments made to this section by 18 this act section 2 of chapter 7 of the 2020 Session Laws of Kansas. If the 19 department has submitted such a request pursuant to section 80(1) of 20 chapter 68 of the 2019 Session Laws of Kansas, then the department may 21 continue such request, or modify such request to conform to the 22 amendments made to subsections (a) and (b) by this act, to fulfill the 23 requirements of this paragraph.

27 (3) The amendments made to subsections (a) and (b) by this act shall
 28 take effect on and after January 1 or July 1 immediately following such
 29 publication of such approval.

30Sec. 24.K.S.A. 39-7,160, 40-3213, 65-6207, 65-6210, 65-6211, 65-316212 and 65-6217 and K.S.A. 2023 Supp. 65-6208, 65-6209 and 65-621832are hereby repealed.

Sec. 25. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after itspublication in the Kansas register.