



Board of Directors

John Fales, DDS

Karen Finstad
Delta Dental of KS Foundation

Ron Gaches, JD
KS Dental Hygienists' Assn.

Bill Hammond
USD 443

Kathy Hunt
KS Head Start Association
KS Cavity Free Kids

Schaunta James-Boyd
EC Tyree

Terri Jowett
Dental Lifeline Network Kansas

Lougene Marsh
Johnson County
Department of
Health & Environment

Steve Peppes
Delta Dental of Kansas

Jill Quigley, RN

Kevin Robertson, MPA, CAE
KS Dental Assn.

Becky Smith, DDS
UMKC School of Dentistry

Brian Smith
Galena School District

Douglas Stuckey
Community Health Center of SEK

Marlou Wegener
Blue Cross and
Blue Shield of KS

**House Judiciary Committee
HB 2188 written testimony
February 12, 2013**

Chairman Kinzer and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity provide this testimony about HB 2188. Oral Health Kansas, Inc. is the statewide advocacy organization dedicated to promoting the importance of lifelong dental health by shaping policy and educating the public so Kansans know that all mouths matter. Founded in 2003, we achieve our mission through advocacy, public awareness, and education. Oral Health Kansas has over 1,100 supporters, including dentists, dental hygienists, educators, safety net clinics, charitable foundations, and advocates for children, people with disabilities and older Kansans.

Our work centers on increasing access to dental providers, payment sources for dental services, and educating Kansans about the importance of oral health. Much of our work relates to creating awareness of how to maintain oral health for dentally underserved populations such as young children, people with disabilities, and elderly people.

Oral Health Kansas opposes HB 2188. The provisions of the bill are onerous for a small, non-profit organization like ours. Our organization is funded primarily by private grants, but we receive occasional small grants from state agencies. In nearly all cases, those grants are pass-through funds from federal grants. We already comply with all grant requirements and report on the use of all funds to the appropriate state agency through timely filing of grant reports. We are dedicated to transparency. As such, we make also our annual tax return and governing documents public and share grant reports with those who request them. The requirements of HB 2188 would necessitate a new system we do not currently possess. The bill requires an on-line, searchable, downloadable format for reporting all public funds, which is something we do not have, nor do we have the expertise to create such a system. This new requirement would mean our organization would need to contract with someone to create a downloadable, searchable, on-line database to duplicate the reporting work we already do, but in a new format. We believe this amounts to an unfunded mandate, and our budget does not include the funds to support it.

We urge the Committee not to pass HB 2188. Instead, we believe the reporting mechanisms already in place for the use of public funds, such as small grants from non-SGF sources, should continue to be relied upon to create the transparency necessary with the use of public funds. Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

800 SW Jackson, Suite 1120
Topeka, KS 66612

785.235.6039 (phone)
785.233.5564 (fax)
info@oralhealthkansas.org

www.oralhealthkansas.org