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Testimony in Support of House Bill 2427 with Balloon Amendment Presented to the House Committee on Federal and State Affairs By Deputy Attorney General Steve Karrer

February 8, 2018

Chairman Barker and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to present this written testimony on behalf of Kansas Attorney General Derek Schmidt in support of House Bill 2427 with balloon amendment.

In May of last year, I presented testimony in opposition to the original HB 2427. This opposition was primarily in regards to changes regarding crimes currently receiving a lifetime ban. The balloon amendment to HB 2427 leaves in place a lifetime ban for certain crimes. It also adds additional crimes to a 6 year ban. For these reasons, we believe this bill in its current form provides more protection for patients of adult care homes and is therefore good public policy.

In my previous testimony, I also indicated concerns on whether language related to criminal history background checks would be in compliance with federal standards, as well as state statutes and polices related to the Kansas Criminal Justice Information System. Since May of 2017, the KBI has been engaged with KDADS regarding this language. KBI has informed our office they are now in support of the language regarding the background check process contained in the balloon amendment to HB 2427.

For these reasons, on behalf of Kansas Attorney General Derek Schmidt, I encourage you to report HB 22427 with balloon amendment out of committee favorably.

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