



February 6, 2017

Chairman Daniel Hawkins
Health and Human Resources Committee
Kansas State Capitol
Topeka, KS 66612

RE: HB 2217- Standards for the Use of Emergency Opioid Antagonist – Opposition

The Kansas Affiliate of the American College of Nurse-Midwives (ACNM) represents Certified Nurse-Midwives (CNMs) in Kansas. While we support the intent of HB 2217, we have concerns about the exclusion on certified nurse-midwives as providers able to provide this treatment.

HB 2217 - Definitions-

1. (9) Health Care Provider means a physician licensed to practice medicine and surgery by the state board of healing arts, a licensed dentist, mid-level practitioner as defined by K.S.A. 65-1626, and amendments thereto, or any person authorized by law to prescribe medication except that "healthcare provider" does not include a certified nurse-midwife.

If this exclusion is due do with the Independent Midwife Act, then the language should refer to the specific KS statute governing the independent practice of midwifery (KSA Suppl 65-28601 through 65-28610). All practicing nurse-midwives in KS are CNMs as we have passed and maintain our national certification.

It appears from the bill that nurse-midwives regulated by KSBON would be considered midlevel practitioners and thus, these standards would apply if within the individual's Authorization for Practice and Prescriptive Authority. Opioids addiction is a problem among women we see for primary care and pregnant women of whom CNMs care for in clinics, health departments, offices and hospitals. Regardless of the licensing board, nurse-midwives need to be able to provide emergency opioid antagonist care.

Sincerely,

Board of Directors
Kansas Affiliate American College of Nurse-Midwives