



An independent voice
those served by KanCare

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Feb. 12, 2020

Chairman Carpenter and members of the House Social Services Budget Committee; thank you for the opportunity to offer neutral testimony on behalf of the KanCare Advocates Network (KAN) on HB 2550.

KAN is a coalition of advocates whose collective interests include issues impacting children and adults who are served by KanCare under the Kansas Medicaid program. As an organization, KAN advocates on behalf of all communities served by KanCare. We understand the intent of HB 2550 and appreciate efforts to shine a light on the inadequate reimbursement rates across all KanCare waiver populations.

KAN has strongly advocated for KanCare resources to be equitably allocated. We cannot fully support HB 2550 because it seeks higher reimbursement rates only for providers of services under the intellectually/developmentally disabled (I/DD) waiver. This bill does not treat all populations equitably, therefore we cannot support it.

We would ask that the three-year phased-in rate increase as proposed by HB 2550 be expanded to cover all providers of services under the seven KanCare waivers. KAN would fully support the bill if that amendment were made.

We do support the provision with Sec. 1(b) that calls for a rate study by the Bethell Joint Committee on Home and Community Based Services and KanCare Oversight Committee but we would also ask that the rate study be expanded to all of the waivers that carry a waiting list, or are at risk of a waiting list, at the time of the study.

Thank you for your attention to this issue and we ask that you expand HB 2550 to include all providers of HCBS waiver services.

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