



February 8, 2023

RE: HB 2340 – Support if Amended -Written Only

Dear Chair Landwehr and Members of the Committee on Health & Human Services,

Fresenius Medical Care cares for 1,184 Kansans with kidney failure in 26 outpatient dialysis clinics throughout the state. Each dialysis patient has access to social work services through a licensed Masters level social worker, which is mandated by federal CMS regulations for End Stage Renal Disease facilities.

Some of our LMSWs decide to pursue their clinical LSCSW license. We are concerned about the requirement proposed in HB 2340 that a master's level social worker seeking supervision for a clinical license would be limited to only BSRB "Board-Approved Supervisors." We believe the number of supervisors will decrease with this requirement, making it more difficult for LMSWs to find supervision in their local geographical areas, especially in rural areas. Kansas already has a lower percentage of clinical social workers than our neighboring states. We would support this legislation if the "board-approved supervisor requirement" was removed.

In addition, we request that clinical social workers who reside outside of Kansas would be able to practice via the reciprocal license provision after 12 months instead of after the current 36 months. This would allow more clinical social workers to practice in Kansas. Ultimately, we hope Kansas will adopt a social worker licensure compact.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Wendy Funk Schrag".

Wendy Funk Schrag, LMSW, ACSW  
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