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**House Health and Human Services Committee**

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**Room DSOB 784**

Madame Chairperson, members of the Committee, I thank you for the opportunity of providing information on House Bill Number 2573, an Act concerning health care, enacting the KanCare Accountability Act. I am in favor of the Bill.

I have followed with great interest the proposed changes in the manner in which people with disabilities are provided services under the Kansas Medicaid program. The proposal is to contract with three companies, some or all of which may not be Kansas companies. Because this is a new way of funding and managing these programs, accountability is needed. Kansas must know that the companies are held accountable and receive oversight through an independent audit and evaluation.

This Bill provides an accountability method that will provide the state with information regarding the use of both state and federal funds. It will assist Kansas in determining if the contracted companies are making appropriate decisions and that such decisions are not impacting Kansans who have disabilities in an unfavorable way.

I do very much endorse this bill and urge you to pass it. As always, your time and attention is greatly appreciated and I would be happy to answer questions and can be reached at the e-mail and phone number below.

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