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**Testimony in Support of HB 2562**

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee:

This is an honor to testify to you this morning about a bill that is near and dear to my heart. As a cardiac nurse for over 40 years, a professional member of the American Heart Association, and a BLS instructor, I realize how important first response is to survival. Those first few seconds and minutes of circulation to the heart and brain make a huge difference in the outcome of an individual in crisis.

For several years, I have been involved with teaching the Friends and Family course of CPR. Basically, we teach members of the community the simple steps of heart and lung resuscitation. I hear stories of situations these individuals have been in where they felt helpless, and they want to learn what to do. I also hear questions of what their liability is if the victim does not survive. Why is it that good neighbors who want to help someone survive even have to question this issue?

The intent of a "good neighbor" is NEVER to cause harm. Do you think the citizens of Kansas would tolerate someone just "standing by" and refusing to help someone in need? Socially, this bystander would be publicly humiliated and considered an outcast. This is the culture we have created with litigation against those who try to be a good neighbor, to those who want to help someone survive, and to those who want to do all they can to help someone survive.

My hope is that all Kansans, all Americans, know CPR and know what to do in case of an emergency. Good Samaritans will not stand by. They will assist those in need without thinking. These wonderful neighbors should never have to face being punished in any way for their good deeds. I urge you, as our voting voice in Kansas, to protect the people who save us! Thank you for your time.

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Attachment 8