

STATE OF KANSAS

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Chair Schmidt and members of the committee,

Thank you for holding this hearing on SB407. A year ago a constituent called me in tears because she had just gone through a double mastectomy. She had had a mammogram, which was negative on Dec. 29, and 13 days later detected a mass. She had dense breasts, but did not know it. You will also hear from other conferees about similar situations. The conferees are experts on this bill and I will give my time so they can explain why this bill is needed.

However, my hope is that SB407 will provide knowledge to women about a normal condition called dense breasts which could mask abnormalities on their mammograms. This bill will provide information to women so they can talk with their doctor about the best care possible for them. Because knowledge about one's health is power, it will also reinforce the necessity and importance of preventive medicine and yearly exams.

My constituent has sent her story, which I am attaching to my testimony. After I had filed this bill, I found that Representatives Sheryl Spalding and Pat Colloton were also supportive of this bill and we have been collaborating on SB407.

Thank you for allowing us to have this hearing today.

*Senator Jean Schodorf*