



To: Rep. David Crum, and Members, House Health and Human Services
From: Rachel Monger, Director of Government Affairs
Date: February 13, 2013

Testimony in Support of House Bill 2025

Thank you, Chairman Crum, and Members of the House Health and Human Services Committee. I am Rachel Monger, the Director of Government Affairs for LeadingAge Kansas (formerly known as the Kansas Association of Homes and Services for the Aging). Our 160 members include not-for-profit nursing homes, retirement communities, hospital long-term care units, assisted living and residential health care residences, homes plus, low income housing, licensed home health agencies and other community based service programs throughout Kansas.

KanCare, the new Medicaid managed care system, launched January 1, 2013. Changes to the Kansas Medicaid program did not require involvement or input from the Kansas legislature or Kansas voters. KanCare is a large endeavor, and implementation will inevitably produce challenges for providers and consumers that must be addressed to ensure quality and timely care for vulnerable populations. Transparency and accountability to taxpayers and voters must be an essential element of KanCare, and legislative oversight is needed to accomplish this.

We wholeheartedly support House Bill 2025, and its creation of a Joint Committee on Home and Community Based Services and KanCare Oversight. This Committee will serve a much needed function in providing oversight and to ensure transparency and accountability for Medicaid managed care.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue.