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March 11, 2013

The Honorable Mary Pilcher-Cook, Chairperson  
Members, Senate Committee on Public Health and Welfare

Dear Senator Pilcher-Cook:

My name is Tammy Hammond, Executive Director of Rosewood Services Inc., a community service provider in Central Kansas serving more than 170 clients. I oppose SB 194 as it is written. I offer a few brief points to consider:

- Eligibility Determination and Functional Assessments need to be performed by an independent CDDO not providing direct services to individuals, this eliminates financial interest in the results of the assessments, while assuring accurate tier levels. It is a local safeguard which has served our industry well.
- An inherent conflict of interest would exist if MCOs were allowed to manage Eligibility Determination, Functional Assessments, and Quality Assurance as they would have a vested financial interest in the outcome. The wording of SB 194 does not specify who qualifies to act as an independent agency, *nor does it exclude MCOs which is imperative.*
- My company operated for several years under a dual-role CDDO providing direct services, it threatened the survival of my company and those of other providers in our area, *it simply does not work.* Rosewood Services supports an independent conflict free system. Over 8000 individuals in Kansas rely on this system being administered fairly and unbiased. An independent CDDO such as SDSI is a great example of this, and continues to be the best solution. SB 194 as written does not provide for this and would place over 8000 Kansans with developmental disabilities at risk.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Tammy Hammond  
Executive Director, Rosewood Services Inc.