



Tom Bell  
President and CEO

TO: Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee

FROM: Chad Austin  
Senior Vice President, Government Relations

DATE: March 20, 2013

RE: House Bill 2160

The Kansas Hospital Association appreciates the opportunity to provide comments in support of House Bill 2160, which amends the quality care assessment program.

The quality care assessment program was passed during the 2010 Kansas legislative session after careful consideration. The program requires the State of Kansas to assess an annual, uniform assessment per licensed bed on each skilled nursing care facility (excluding the Kansas soldiers' home and the Kansas veteran's home). The provisions of the original program created a tiered assessment rate that would be capped for "general nursing homes" at \$1,950 per licensed bed per year and reduced to one-sixth of that rate for those entities that are considered "small facilities," "high Medicaid facilities" or are "continued care retirement communities." The program also includes a quality care improvement panel, which consisted of individuals representing the nursing home industry, agencies and other interested stakeholders.

The Kansas Hospital Association supports the proposed amendments included in House Bill 2160 and urges the committee to favorably consider its passage.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.