

Testimony on:

House Bill 2153

Presented to:

Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee

By:

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Madam Chairperson and Members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB 2153. The Kansas Association for the Medically Underserved (KAMU) is an association of 45 primary care safety net clinics who share the mission of increasing access to primary health care services, regardless of a patients' ability to pay, and who provide health care services to more than 241,000 people throughout the state. The Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC) and indigent health care clinics referenced in the Utilization of Unused Medications Act are KAMU members. Making unused medications available for use instead of destroying them makes more efficient use of our scarce resources. Since its passage in 2008, the Unused Medications Act has been an important resource for our member clinics to use to make prescriptions drugs available to those unable to pay for them.

HB 2153 adds to the list of eligible donating entities and donated medications allowed by the Act. These additions will potentially assist in diverting additional unused medications for use by our clinics in assisting medically indigent patients. HB 2153 also modifies language related to the Board of Pharmacy's role in establishing standards and procedures related to the Act. KAMU is excited for the opportunity to work closely with the Board of Pharmacy as they develop these standards and procedures in order to safeguard the safety of Kansans and to ensure our member clinics' ability to continue to use this important program to provide donated medications to medically indigent Kansans.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments in support of KAMU member clinics on HB 2153.