

Dan Hawkins

From: Dr. Ryan Neuhofel <dr.neu@neucare.net>
Sent: Wednesday, January 18, 2017 11:08 AM
To: Dan Hawkins
Cc: Jerry Slaughter; rcolombo@kmsonline.org; Josh Umbehr
Subject: Physician Support for HB 2027

Rep. Hawkins and members of the **House Health and Human Services Committee,**

I am a family physician in Lawrence, KS who has owned a Direct Primary Care (DPC) practice since 2011. I am writing in favor of HB 2027 pertaining to client billing of pathology services.

Being membership supported, we offer a host of ancillary services "at cost" (without markup or profit) to members, such as prescription medications and labs -- which results in a 70-90% savings for patients vs. what traditional system charges them. Many of my patients, including many lower-income people without health insurance or high deductible insurance, can save \$100's per month on these ancillary discounts.

Unfortunately, current Kansas regulations prohibit me from doing the same service for pathology. The rationale of this law is to protect physicians from drastically up-charging patients this service for profit. I have seen quite the opposite in reality. I have seen many pathology client contracts (directly to practices) at much cheaper prices than what patients pay directly to pathology lab or hospitals. My patients would certainly have more transparency and pay less for pathology services under a DPC arrangement if HB 2027 was passed.

I am happy to answer any further questions on this topic.

Thanks,

W. Ryan Neuhofel, DO, MPH

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