



February 10, 2017

Colleen McDermott
Concorde Career College
5800 Foxridge Dr.
Mission, Kansas 66202

RE: House Bill 2139 - House Health and Human Services Committee

Chairman Hawkins and Members of the Committee:

My name is Colleen McDermott. I am the campus President for Concorde Career College in Kansas City, Missouri. I would like to thank the committee for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of House Bill 2139.

As an institution focused on health care education, I am in support of the dental therapist model for multiple reasons. Dental Hygiene is offered at our Kansas City campus, and expanding the provider model would create a career ladder for our graduates; bringing more high paying jobs to the state. This expansion would also create jobs by bringing faculty and students from out of state. Dental therapists would also increase access to healthcare services to the underserved of Kansas; creating an oral healthcare provider that would provide treatment in areas to populations where the number of dentists are limited.

Concorde Career College would also be in special support of this model as it would offer an opportunity for expansion of our educational offerings to include this CODA approved curriculum at our Kansas City campus.

In close, I offer my support of Bill 2139 in expanding the oral health care provider model to include dental therapists in Kansas.

Thank you Chairman Hawkins, and members of the committee for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Colleen McDermott". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Colleen McDermott
Campus President
Concorde Career College