

Patrick T. Jonas, HB 2416, Support, Oral

**Cerebral Palsy Research Foundation of Kansas
Testimony on House Bill 2416**

March 21, 2018

To: The Kansas Senate Assessment and Taxation Committee

From: Patrick T. Jonas, President and CEO (CPRFK)

Ref: Support of House Bill 2416

Chairwoman Tyson and members of the Senate Assessment and Taxation Committee, I want to thank you for your willingness to allow me to provide testimony on behalf of the Cerebral Palsy Research Foundation of Kansas (CPRFK) and our affiliates. The purpose for my presence today is to ask for your support of House Bill 2416. HB 2416 passed the House 122-0 on Wednesday March 7. It is the companion bill of Senate Bill 211 with some very favorable amendments as Safeguards.

HB 2416 implements a new approach to increase employment for Kansans with disabilities that incentivizes private sector taxpayers to subcontract work to nonprofit entities engaging in competitive and integrated employment efforts. This initiative, as you may recall was brought about by proposed changes federally to current employment practices.

To ensure the legislation is targeted properly, working with legislative advocates, the following additional safeguards have been inserted in the legislation:

- The eligible tax years were amended to 2018 through 2022.
- The total amount of cumulative credits allowed for the life of the program would be capped at \$5 million over 5 years.
- Qualified vendors must have at least 30% of employees be Kansas residents with a disability vs. 10%.
- The Secretary of Revenue would be required to make an annual report to the standing taxation committees on the implementation and effectiveness of the tax credit program.

We strongly believe that the passage of this bill; will greatly assist in increasing the competitive and integrated employment of Kansans with disabilities and that there is potential for significant state savings that will take place. I am hopeful that you will move this bill forward to ensure employment options in the future for those we serve.

I wish to thank you again for your time Chairwoman Tyson and members of the Senate Assessment and Taxation and ask for your support for House Bill 2416.