



INDEPENDENCE  
INCLUSION  
INNOVATION

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January 31, 2017

TO: Sen. Vicki Schmidt and

Members, Senate Committee on Public Health and Welfare

FR: Tim Wood, Executive Director, InterHab

RE: SB 69

Chairperson Schmidt and members of the Committee—

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony in support of SB 69. I am Executive Director for InterHab, which represents community-based service providers and community developmental disability organizations (CDDOs) across the State, and has been collaboratively engaged with the State for every program reform and program redesign for more than 40 years.

InterHab supports SB 69, and views it as a necessary piece (amongst others) needed to improve the operation of the KanCare program. They are necessary in grant HCBS providers some relief from the extraordinary administrative burden under KanCare—a burden that detrimentally affects providers' ability to consistently ensure enhanced outcomes for Kansans with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

There are several changes to the current system that will reduce this extraordinary administrative burden, including (but not limited to): (1) having access to accurate and timely encounter data; (2) obtaining timely and intelligible documentation from MCOs regarding claim denials—in whole or in part; and (3) standardization of forms and process for provider credentialing and re-credentialing for providers.

Finally, InterHab and its members are supportive of the independent third-party review with the suggested adjustments being present to the committee by the Disability Rights Center of Kansas. We support the idea of allowing the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) to have any information that may be helpful in disposition of a OHA decision.

We do provide, however, a word of caution. These changes should not be viewed as a comprehensive solution to the myriad issues with KanCare. There remain many areas for improvement in the program. Our membership would like the Committee to know that we are happy to continue our collaboration with the legislature in addressing these issues, and that we will be proposing additional solutions in the coming days and weeks.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written comments on SB 69.

Senate Public Health and Welfare

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Date \_\_\_\_\_

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