



EQUALITY ♦ LAW ♦ JUSTICE

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Written-Only Testimony in Support of HB 2229
House Children & Seniors Committee
January 22, 2020

Chairwoman Concannon and members of the Committee:

My name is Mike Burgess. I am the Director of Policy & Outreach at the Disability Rights Center of Kansas (DRC). DRC is a public interest legal advocacy organization that is part of a national network of federally mandated organizations empowered to advocate for Kansans with disabilities. DRC is the officially designated protection and advocacy system in Kansas. DRC is a private, 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation, organizationally independent of state government and whose sole interest is the protection of the legal rights of Kansans with disabilities.

Thank you for the opportunity to share our support for HB 2229.

DRC supports making the changes in HB 2229, which strikes the language that creates a separate standard of evidence that only applies in nursing home cases.

The Kansas Rules of Evidence and case law already serve as a guide for courts on the veracity and admissibility of an electronic recording as evidence in any civil, criminal, and administrative proceeding.

The separate standard only serves to make it more difficult for Kansans with disabilities and seniors in nursing facilities to obtain justice.

Thank you for the opportunity to support HB 2229.