

HOUSE INSURANCE COMMITTEE
January 22, 2020
Testimony Supporting House Bill 2053
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Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas City

Chair Vickrey and Members of the Committee, my name is Melissa Panettiere and I am here today on behalf of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas City ("BlueKC") to testify in support of House Bill 2053.

BlueKC is a not-for-profit health plan serving more than a million residents in the greater Kansas City area, including Johnson and Wyandotte counties in Kansas and 30 counties in Northwest Missouri. Our mission is to use our role as the area's leading health insurer to provide affordable access to healthcare and improve the health and wellness of our members. We would like to thank the Chairman and the committee for your interest in short term limited plans (STLDs). As you know, these plans offer an affordable option to those who are between jobs or have other short-term needs for health insurance. We have seen demand for these types of plans in the individual market and have responded with an offering of short-term limited duration major medical plans with access to quality healthcare. We proudly provide our members with options that fit both their needs and budget; including packages that have coverage for hospital, physician, and emergency services, as well as many specialized services.

Now that the individual mandate under the Affordable Care Act has been removed as well as the corresponding penalty there is no longer a need for the consumer disclosure language previously required to be included when offering STLDs. Therefore, we request the committee's consideration in removing the mandated statement contained in lines 11 through 29 of the bill.

For the reasons stated above we respectfully request your favorable action on HB2053. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.

