



EQUALITY ♦ LAW ♦ JUSTICE

Disability Rights Center of Kansas

214 SW 6th Avenue, Suite 100 ♦ Topeka, KS 66603
Phone: 785.273.9661 ♦ Toll Free: 1.877.776.1541
Toll Free TDD: 1.877.335.3725 ♦ Fax: 785-273-9414
www.drckansas.org info@drckansas.org

Proponent for HB 2004
House Children & Seniors Committee
January 28, 2021

Chair 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.

I am here today to share our support for HB2004.

HB2004 gives residents of assisted living facilities the right to be heard in an administrative hearing (just like nursing facility residents) and protects assisted living facility residents from being wrongfully evicted.

If they were in their own apartment, they would have appeal rights under the Tenant/Landlord Act. Unfortunately there is a gap in rights today that does not prevent someone from being wrongfully evicted in assisted living facilities. This bill is a very commonsense approach to fill the void in rights for seniors and individuals with disabilities who live in these settings.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak in support of HB2004 otherwise known as “Charlie’s Bill.” I would be happy to stand for questions at the appropriate time.