



1100 SW Gage
Topeka, Kansas 66604-1761
(785) 267-6003 Phone
(785) 267-0833 Fax
khca.org
khca@khca.org



House Children and Seniors Committee
Chairwoman Concannon and Committee Members
February 1, 2022

House Bill 2524 – requiring regulation of supplemental nursing services agencies

Proponent

Good Afternoon Madam Chair and Committee Members. I am Linda MowBray, President/CEO of the Kansas Health Care Association and Kansas Center for Assisted Living. We are a state-wide trade Association representing for-profit and not-for-profit nursing home, assisted living, residential health care, home plus, and nursing facilities for mental health communities across the state. We are the oldest nursing home trade association in Kansas and have over 265-member communities.

Thank you for hearing my testimony today on HB 2524 - requiring regulation of supplemental nursing services agencies.

First – this bill in no way seeks to limit the amount of money a nurse or any other healthcare worker in the state of Kansas makes.

Second – This bill is not unique to Kansas. Over a dozen states have legislation or pending legislation trying to hold supplemental staffing agencies accountable for cost, quality and reliability.

Third – In the end, Kansas tax payors are the ones subsidizing supplemental staffing agencies as the amount being paid for these workers, will be passed on through the Medicaid rates or directly to the private pay individual receiving care.

Finally, and most importantly, Kansans living in adult care homes need to know that someone will be there 24 hours a day 7 days a week to help care for them. And almost equally important, the caregivers who are working overtime with few if any days off. They can't leave to go home until their replacement arrives. They can't and won't abandon their shift, their residents or their fellow co-workers.

HB 2524 holds supplemental staffing agencies accountable, the same way we are. Being registered for accountability. Requiring that staff are vetted with background checks and licensing requirements Providing training and competency checking to the staff they are sending into care for our frail elders. And perhaps most importantly, providing quality, reliable care for our Kansas elders. They deserve it!

Thank you and I'll stand for questions at the appropriate time.

Linda MowBray, President/CEO
KHCA/KCAL