



February 1, 2022

The Honorable Steven Johnson
Chair, Kansas House Committee on Insurance and Pensions
276-W Kansas State Capitol
300 SW 10th Street
Topeka, KS 66612

Re. Request to testify orally in opposition to SB 199 on February 2

Dear Chairman Johnson:

On behalf of The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS), I request the opportunity to testify orally in opposition to SB 199 at Wednesday afternoon's hearing. Specifically, I'd like to comment on the following issues:

- A plain-language reading of SB 199, combined with April 2021 guidance from the Kansas Insurance Department (KID), tells us that this legislation does nothing to compel insurers to offer guaranteed renewal on short-term plans without underwriting. KID specifically noted in an April email to LLS that "Guaranteed Renewability without underwriting is at the plan's discretion" and would remain so should SB 199 become law.
- A [2022 LLS survey report on short-term plans](#) found the public is deeply concerned about deregulation of these products. Consumers already find health insurance to be confusing, and short-term plans are frequently marketed to take advantage of this confusion. Nine in ten respondents said people can get duped into buying poor-quality coverage even after asking the right questions, and a similar majority of respondents said short-term plans should be carefully regulated to protect consumer interests.

Given that I will not be able to be in Topeka in person, I'd be grateful to use the committee's virtual meeting platform to deliver my statement.

With thanks,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dana Bacon".

Dana Bacon
Kansas Government Affairs Director
The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society
dana.bacon@lls.org
612.308.0479