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Testimony in Support of Senate Bill 460

**Presented to the Senate Committee on Public Health and Welfare
By Senior Assistant Attorney General Melissa G. Johnson,
Chair, State Child Death Review Board**

March 1, 2022

Senator Hilderbrand and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony today in support of SB 460. The State Child Death Review Board is in support of SB 460 and urges you to also support this important legislation.

As identified in the 2021 State Child Death Review Board Report, which is available on our website at www.ag.ks.gov/scdrb, improvements to the child welfare system are a stated legislative priority of the Board. Specifically, the Board recommended that legislation be enacted to require a medical evaluation by a pediatric health professional with specialized training in detecting and assessing potential child abuse injuries when allegations of child abuse have been made. This legislation directly addresses this issue and is an important step in preventing future child abuse fatalities in Kansas.

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