



LAURA KELLY, Governor • KATHY KECK, Chairperson • STEVE GIEBER, Executive Director

“To empower individuals with I/DD and their families to lead systems change, build capacity, and advocate for inclusive, integrated, accessible communities where everyone belongs and thrives.”

March 10, 2022

RE: Opponent Senate Bill 501

Testimony by: Kansas Council on Developmental Disabilities

Chairman Hilderbrand and members of the Committee on Public Health and Welfare:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony to your committee today.

I am here to support Kansans with disabilities and oppose the SB 501 and. This bill will negatively impact Kansans with disabilities in several ways.

This will increase the length of the eligibility process increasing the time it takes to receive benefit determination. Lengthy determinations have caused Kansas to pay penalties for being out of compliance in the past. The added complexities will increase the likelihood of errors, which also can cause the state penalties. The additional burden to Kansans with disabilities and their families to navigate the complexities to make sure they do not lose their health/support benefits is not worth the small savings. This bill would punish people with limited resources and frequently little education, for lack of reporting to a difficult to understand system.

The bill will:

- Add further complexity to the system
- Require increasing staffing at multiple state agencies in order to monitor, track and report on participant eligibility
- Cost more due to Multiple additional IT projects and cause further delay on current projects and system changes
- Leave a lot of confusion about who to report what to, by when, and what the penalties will be. The what ifs have not been addressed.
- Add costs associated with additional churn in the membership and impacting all members customer experience.

As representatives of all Kansans, I urge you to consider all the far-ranging impacts and major costs of this suggested piece of legislation.



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Thank you.

DD Act Values: Independence, Productivity, Integration, Capacity Building, Self-Determination & Inclusion in Community, Free from Abuse, Neglect & Exploration

KCDD Values: Person-Centered, Impactful Outcomes, Respectful, Collaborative, Innovative, Equitable Opportunity