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for
Better Care

Celebrating 30 years

1975 - 2005

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HB 2086 Home Health Agency Surveys
Committee on Health and Human Services
January 31, 2005

Honorable Chairman Morrison
and committee Members:

Kansas Advocates for Better Care (KABC) is opposed to HB 2086. KABC is a statewide non-profit organization of consumers that promotes quality long-term care. It has been assisting/guiding consumers for 30 years.

The January 21, 2005 issue of The Kiplinger Letter, Forecasts for Management Decision-making, Vol. 82, No. 3, says, "A home health care boom is in the works. The aging population and tremendous pressure to trim hospital and nursing home costs spell at least 10% annual growth for the industry for five years or so...Home health care companies can't find enough workers and some states want to trim Medicaid payments."

With home health care being a highly preferred delivery system, the proposed easing of survey frequency from being conducted every 15 months (as is typical for licensed long-term care providers) to being conducted only every 36 months is poorly thought out. The more people rely on home health agencies for provision of their health care needs, the more oversight is needed to assure quality and compliance with regulations.

Please do not advance HB 2086
Thanks for allowing this comment.

Deanne Bacco, Executive Director, KABC