

SB 116

Kansas Health Care Association Testimony

House Health and Human Services Committee

March 8, 2005

Chairman and Members of the Committee

The members of the Kansas Health Care Association provide long term care services for frail, elderly and disabled Kansans. We support the original intent of the bill to address recent incidences related to unlicensed facilities.

In current law, our geriatric licensed facilities, are protected by many regulations and provide sufficient protections for residents who wish to have access to state protection and advocacy systems. To this end, we encourage relations with the state Ombudsman program.

Licensing oversight is very important. Senate Bill 116 would add the authority to take action to close facilities that do not meet or seek to meet established minimum standards of care and treatment through licensure.

We support SB 116 as it has been amended by the Senate Committee.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.

Cindy Luxem
Kansas Health Care Association