



Date: March 10, 2005

To: House Committee on Health and Human Services

From: Kevin J. Robertson, CAE  
Executive Director

**RE: Testimony on SB 91**

Chairman Morrison and members of the Committee I am Kevin Robertson, executive director of the Kansas Dental Association (KDA) representing 1,168, or some 80% of the state's licensed dentists. I am here today to discuss SB 91.

The KDA has no concerns with the increased maximum fees contained in SB 91 as the Kansas Dental Board has shared their concerns regarding the revenue stream of the agency with the KDA leadership.

The KDA generally supports the Senate-added amendment regarding mobile dental facilities and portable dental operations. The KDA believes it is important for the Dental Board to be able to monitor for-profit business ventures in mobile dentistry. Our concern, however, is that SB 91 would affect the KDA's Kansas Dental Charitable Foundation's Kansas Mission of Mercy (KMOM) project. Though we share the Board's concern that mobile clinics should have the same dental standards for care and patient safety as are expected in a dental office, the basic concept and goals of KMOM to provide a permanent dental office of record are different. As such, the KDA would ask that the committee amend the bill to exempt KMOM and the dental licensees who volunteer from the requirements of SB 91. We believe this can be accomplished by inserting the following language

**Page 2, line 14 after "institutions"**

10 (2) Any nonfacility in which dental equipment, utilized in the  
11 practice of dentistry, is transported to and utilized on a temporary  
12 basis at an out-of-office location, including, but not limited to: (A)  
13 Other dentists' offices; (B) patients' homes; (C) schools; (D) nursing  
14 homes; or (E) other institutions.

**,except that a not-for-profit organization providing dental services under KSA 75-6102 and amendments thereto shall be exempt from this act.**

**and**

**Page 3, after line 27**

- 15     (2) *This section shall not apply to:*  
16     (A) *Dentists providing dental services for federal, state and lo-*  
17     *cal governmental agencies;*  
18     (B) *dentists licensed to practice in Kansas providing emergency*  
19     *treatment for their patients of record;*  
20     (C) *dentists who are not employed by or independently con-*  
21     *tracting with a mobile dental facility or portable dental operation*  
22     *who provide nonemergency treatment for their patients of record*  
23     *outside the dentist's physically stationary office fewer than 30 days*  
24     *per calendar year; and*  
25     (D) *dental hygienists who are providing dental hygiene services*  
26     *as authorized by the Kansas dental act and the board's rules and*  
27     *regulations.*

**(E) dentists who are providing dental services under KSA 75-6102 and amendments thereto.**  
**(F) dental hygienists who are providing dental hygiene services under KSA 75-6102 and amendments thereto.**

The language we are attaching the above "KMOM amendment" to (KSA 75-6102) is the Kansas Charitable Healthcare Provider Act which the Kansas Legislature helped the KDA to amend during the 2003 Session to limit KMOM provider volunteers (dentists and dental hygienists) from liability during the project.

For those of you that are unfamiliar with the Kansas Mission of Mercy (KMOM) let me take a moment to explain what it is. KMOM is the world's largest dental charity clinic sponsored by the KDA's 501(c)(3) foundation - The Kansas Dental Charitable Foundation (KDCF) - to help address oral healthcare concerns throughout Kansas.

KMOM treats all patients on a first come-first served basis after first receiving a health screen prior to a dental assessment. Based on dental needs, patients are given a choice of receiving a dental cleaning, restorative care (fillings, root canals, etc.) or tooth extraction. The underserved population is targeted with clinic information in the project area. Patients range in age from toddlers to seniors. Exit surveys conducted at each of the four KMOMs have indicated that 19-25% of the participants were children. Though many patients may be Medicaid/Healthwave participants, no fees are collected or claims filed with Medicaid/ Healthwave. KDCF owns nearly all the mobile chairs, dental units, instruments, sterilizers, suction units, etc. required to put on KMOM, though some equipment is borrowed. The equipment is stored and transported in our own 53' semi-trailer and two 9' trailers. All the funds necessary to hold the four KMOM events have been private donations, foundation grants, etc. No tax dollars have ever been sought or used.\*

*\*Communities have provided facilities and/or security free of charge.*

To date, there have been four KMOM projects completed by the KDCF over the past two years. The care provided at these projects is as follows:

<b>KMOM by the Numbers</b>		
	<b>Patients</b>	<b>Care Given (\$)</b>
<b>Garden City (2/03)</b>	1,734	\$553,979.00
<b>Kansas City (8/03)</b>	2,659	\$758,455.00
<b>Pittsburg (4/04)</b>	2,159	\$981,487.00
<b>Salina (2/05)</b>	2,326	\$1,100,437.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8,878</b>	<b>\$3,394,358.00</b>



*A view of KMOM-Salina, February 18-20, 2005*

For more information on the Kansas Mission of Mercy please visit the KDCF website at [www.ksdentalfoundation.org](http://www.ksdentalfoundation.org). Click on "Kansas Mission of Mercy" under "Initiatives" on the right side of the page.

Thank you for your time today, I am happy to answer any questions you may have at this time.