



Kansas Advocates
for
Better Care

Celebrating 30 years

1975 - 2005

**HCR 5011
Recognition and Appreciation for Caregivers**

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Monday, March 14, 2005

Honorable Chairman Morrison and
House Health and Human Services Committee Members:

Kansas Advocates for Better Care (KABC) strongly supports HCR 5011.

While KABC is a statewide non-profit organization of consumers that promotes quality long-term care for persons living in licensed adult care homes, we are very mindful that the care is being provided by not only paid professional caregivers but also volunteer caregivers. There are numerous studies that illustrate the task of caregiver as being very demanding, especially considering many caregivers hold full-time jobs and are attempting to provide hands-on care that will not be provided otherwise. I can imagine that many of you have been in that very situation yourselves.

I, too, have the experience of providing care; it was for my mother who spent six months on hospice. I was able to take time from work to relieve my father from the caregiving duties. His health was suffering from the 24-hour-a-day needs of my mother. He not only needed words of encouragement but he also needed sleep!

This experience and my work with KABC are the reasons that motivate KABC to be a member of the Kansas Alliance for Caregivers. We hope to be helpful to volunteer caregivers as they need information and encouragement.

KABC encourages the Kansas Legislature to recognize family and volunteer caregivers across our State. KABC encourages the Committee to favorably pass on HCR 5011. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Deanne Bacco
Executive Director