



To: Representative Jim Morrison, Chair, and Members  
House Health and Human Services Committee  
From: Debra Zehr, Executive Vice President  
Date: February 8, 2006

### **Testimony in support of House Bill 2452**

Thank you, Chairman Morrison and Members of the Committee, for this opportunity to testify on House Bill 2452.

The Kansas Association of Homes and Services for the Aging (KAHSA) represents 160 not-for-profit nursing homes, retirement communities, hospital long-term care units, assisted living facilities, senior housing and community service providers serving over 20,000 older Kansans every day.

As major employers of licensed nurses who are responsible for the care of thousands of vulnerable elderly people, KAHSA members need complete employment information to assist them in making appropriate employment decisions. To the extent that House Bill 2452 would provide that vital information, we support it. At the same time, we believe that some of the provisions of the bill are too far-reaching, and we would like to offer some amendments to:

1. Narrow the type of information that the Board can collect;
2. Shorten the number of days that employers have to report employment/termination from 30 to 10 days; and
3. Expand the types of employers that are required to report this information to include not only hospitals, but also adult care homes, home health agencies and other employers of nurses and LMHT's.

Please see the attached balloon for more details.

With these amendments, the bill would permit the Board of Nursing to collect licensee employment and termination dates from health care providers and licensees, and to report that information to prospective employers.

Thank you for your consideration of this bill. I would be happy to answer questions.

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*A state affiliate of the American Association of Homes & Services for the Aging*