



**Testimony re: HB 2280
Senate Public Health & Welfare Committee
Presented by Mitch DePriest
on behalf of
The Kansas Association of Chain Drug Stores
March 26, 2021**

Madam Chair and Members of the Committee:

My name is Mitch DePriest, and I am submitting this testimony on behalf of the Kansas Association of Chain Drug Stores (KACDS), the trade association of chain pharmacies across Kansas which employ more than 32,000 Kansans in over 500 chain pharmacy locations.

We strongly support HB 2280, which updates and modernizes regulation of pharmacy throughout the state of Kansas. A key component of this bill provides for the regulation of Telepharmacy in Kansas, a practice already permitted in 27 other states, including our neighboring states of Missouri, Nebraska, and Colorado.

In passing HB 2280, Kansans would be able to visit a registered and regulated telepharmacy to receive their medications while maintaining the same standard of pharmacy services through a licensed Kansas pharmacist at a collaborating pharmacy. Thanks to technological advancements, this bill would enable a Kansas pharmacist to have full communication, oversight, and implementation of safety protocols in fulfilling prescriptions.

Our pharmacies have noted experiences raised by pharmacy consumers around Kansas surrounding prescription deliveries through the COVID-19 pandemic. It is our belief that this bill, as amended, would allow for safe and secure methods of delivery to be utilized so that Kansas would have their prescriptions safely delivered to them. Our pharmacies would also like to stress the importance of getting prescriptions to those unable to make the drive in to town, especially in rural Kansas, and during a time where they feel safer at home.

We would urge the committee's support of HB 2280 and appreciate your consideration today.

