

To: House Health and Human Services Committee

From: Rachelle Colombo

Executive Director

Date: February 12, 2024

Re: HB 2750; Expedited Partner Therapy

The Kansas Medical Society appreciates the opportunity to provide written comments in support of HB 2750, allowing for expedited partner therapy.

HB 2750 would allow for patients affected by sexually transmitted diseases to procure a prescription for themselves and their sexual partners to prevent the spread of sexually transmitted diseases. Physicians and those working under delegated medical authority would be allowed to treat both clinically presenting patients, and their partners for sexually transmitted diseases.

Because sexually transmitted diseases have seen a dramatic increase in recent years and because treatment is not contraindicated, we believe this is in the best interest of Kansas patients to prevent the spread of treatable diseases. Sexually transmitted infections and diseases can lead to long term health complications including certain forms of cancer. But the treatment for these same diseases are low-risk and widely available antibiotic therapies with minimal side effects and are approved for broad use in the general population. HB 2750 provides explicit statutory authority for Kansas physicians to provide treatment to their patients' known partners to prevent the spread of preventable disease. The bill is narrowly limited to the treatment of sexually transmitted diseases.

Forty-six states have passed legislation authorizing expedited partner therapy as outlined in HB 2750. We respectfully request your support of HB 2750 allowing for expedited partner therapy to reduce the spread of preventable disease in Kansas. Thank you.