



Goodwill Industries of Kansas, Inc.

Wichita, KS • 3351 N. Webb Road, 67226 • P.O. Box 8169, 67208 | Phone: 316.744.9291 • Fax: 316.744.1428
goodwillks.org • facebook.com/GoodwillKS • Instagram: @GoodwillKS

House Committee on Health and Human Services Rep. Brenda Landwehr - Chair

Hearing on HB 2751

Written testimony from Goodwill Industries of Kansas

February 12, 2024

Goodwill Industries of Kansas stands in support of Senate Bill 2751 as written, allocating appropriate authority to the Secretary of the Kansas Department on Aging & Disability Services.

Goodwill Industries of Kansas is a business-based non-profit 501c(3) organization that utilizes revenue from retail thrift store sales to provide job training and opportunities for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) and other barriers to employment. Our agency provides Day Program services to roughly 130 individuals with IDD to build independence and dignity by contributing to the regional workforce through various work contracts with area businesses. Goodwill uses revenue from our retail thrift stores to subsidize this program as part of our overall mission to the community.

Due to unintentional restrictions created through KSA Statue 39-2009, Goodwill has been asked to suspend Day Services in our retail locations at Newton and Hutchinson. In working with KDADS, it appears to me that the agency does not want to shut down our services, especially considering recent legislative funding increases to reduce the current 10-year waiting list for services in Kansas. The only solution available to current law is to revise KSA 39-2009, or to move our Day Services department to a separate legal entity.

HB 2751 is a positive step toward resolving some of these issues, although I still strongly recommend adjusting the definition of a "Provider of Service" in the state KSA statute 39-2009 to focus on Departments/Divisions/Staff working directly with individuals with disabilities.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Chris Stanyer – Chief Mission Officer
Goodwill Industries of Kansas
316-744-9291 or cstanyer@goodwillks.org



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Department on Aging
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