



ALLIANCE FOR A
HEALTHY KANSAS

To: Members of the Senate Committee on Public Health and Welfare

From: April Holman, Executive Director, Alliance for a Healthy Kansas

Date: February 13, 2023

RE: Written-Only Testimony in Support of Senate Bill 45

Thank you for this opportunity to share our support for Senate Bill 45.

My name is April Holman, and I am the Executive Director of the Alliance for a Healthy Kansas. The Alliance for a Healthy Kansas is focused on increasing access to affordable health care in Kansas. While our work primarily centers on the expansion of eligibility for adults through KanCare expansion, we also support the provisions of Senate Bill 45 to fix the eligibility criteria for children receiving coverage through the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP.)

Senate Bill 45 would index CHIP eligibility to the current Federal Poverty Level instead of being tied to an outdated level from 2008. This new language would keep up with inflation and eliminate the need for a budget proviso to correct the income eligibility level each year.

The bill also would bring Kansas law into compliance with federal regulations by removing the waiting period for CHIP coverage.

As an initiative dedicated to increasing access to affordable health care, the Alliance for a Healthy Kansas stands in support of Senate Bill 45 and respectfully requests your support as well.