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Testimony concerning HB 2254 House Committee on Health and Human Services February 13, 2017

Chairman Hawkins and Members of the Committee:

The Kansas State Board of Pharmacy respectfully submits this neutral testimony on HB 2254. The Board is generally supportive of initiatives to provide increased access to healthcare for Kansas citizens. Furthermore, the Board understands and supports <u>prescribing</u> in the telemedicine setting.

The Board questions the inclusion of language allowing physicians to dispense medications in a telemedicine setting. Any reference to physician dispensing is concerning, because it would seem to allow physicians to either remotely dispense medications to patients in a separate physical environment, or allow an unidentified third party to dispense medications at the patient's physical location on behalf of the physician. After discussion with the bill authors, the Board does not believe such allowances were the intent of HB2254, and therefore this language is somewhat inadvertent.

For the aforementioned reasons, the Board suggests an amendment to HB 2254 removing any reference to dispensing.

Respectfully submitted,

Alexandra Blasi, JD, MBA Executive Secretary