

TO: House Financial Institutions and Rural Development

FROM: Tara Mays, Vice President State Legislative Relations

DATE: February 10, 2021

RE: KHA Support for HB 2158

On behalf of the Kansas Hospital Association members, we appreciate the opportunity to provide comments in support of HB 2158.

The original legislation establishing this vital committee has been in place since 1999 when the legislature established the Advisory Committee on Trauma (ACT). HB 2158 makes permanent the ACT provisions and the process for those important discussions to take place in a secure setting.

A robust and coordinated trauma system in the state is essential for Kansans' overall health and well-being. Kansas hospitals remain committed to improving patient care at all levels. The advisory committee on trauma allows a multi-disciplinary group to review and make recommendations regarding ways the industry can work across sectors to improve patient care.

The peer-review process provided through the advisory committee on trauma provides an essential analysis after a trauma patient has been treated. These critical conversations allow for continued evaluation of essential process improvements that assure trauma patients can receive the best care possible.

The advisory committee on trauma and the safe and secure sharing of information allows a cross-section of specialists to ensure that we can continue to improve on providing care to some of the most vulnerable Kansans. On behalf of our 122 member hospitals, we urge you to support HB 2158.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.