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House Judiciary Committee
Chairman Patton and Committee Members
January 13, 2022

House Bill 2477 – Legislative Extension of EO 22-01 and 22-02

Proponent

Good Afternoon Mister Chairman and Committee Members. I am Linda MowBray, President/CEO of the Kansas Health Care Association and Kansas Center for Assisted Living. We are a state-wide trade Association representing for-profit and not-for-profit nursing home, assisted living, residential health care, home plus, and nursing facilities for mental health communities across the state. We are the oldest nursing home trade association in Kansas and have over 265-member communities.

Thank you for hearing the cries for help from the long-term care communities and the acute care providers across the state. Our health care providers have been stretched beyond the breaking point to care for Kansans – both with COVID-19 and without. The extension of EO 22-01 and EO 22-02 will provide the flexibility needed to assist our healthcare systems with recruiting, training and providing quality care across Kansas.

HB 2477 is not the panacea that will solve all of our workforce needs. Instead, it is a much-needed safety net which will allow providers to work together with their associations, agencies, the Legislature and the Governor's office to find and create more permanent solutions to our staffing crisis.

We gratefully acknowledge the cooperative efforts between all entities involved to ease our burden and answer our cries for help.

Thank you and I'll stand for questions at the appropriate time.

Linda MowBray, President/CEO
KHCA/KCAL