

House Federal and State Affairs Committee
Chairman Barker and Committee Members
February 8, 2018

Proponent- HB 2427

Mr. Chairman and Committee members

We are the Kansas Health Care Association and Kansas Center for Assisted Living, a trade association with a membership of nursing homes, assisted living, residential health care, home plus, and nursing facilities for mental health. We are the oldest and largest nursing home trade association in Kansas. Our members care for nearly 20,000 elders across the state each and every day.

After a long and sometimes contentious discussion with the parties involved, we have all agreed on the amendments in HB 2427, as we reviewed last Friday, February 2, 2018. Our main concern was how non-person offenses were being included to prohibit employment in an adult care home as required by the ACA.

To be clear, these offenses are drug offenses which we take seriously.

"...under Federal and State law, of a criminal offense consisting of a felony related to the unlawful manufacture, distribution, prescription, or dispensing of a controlled substance."

They are prohibiting when the offender is convicted at a felony level. Prior to the compromise, these offenses prohibited employment in Kansas adult care homes when convicted at the misdemeanor level.

The compromise returns to the original intent and these offenses are again prohibit employment when convicted at a felony level.

Our providers must protect the frail elders in their care but they must have staff to care for them. We feel HB 2427 strikes the right balance. It is for the agreed upon language that KHCA will now support HB 2427.

Cindy Luxem
CEO/President Kansas Health Care Association