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Testimony on Senate Bill 252
presented to
Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee

by

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Senator Suellentrop and Members of the Senate Public Health Committee,

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Senate Bill 252.

One year ago, I stood before you and committed to fixing what I referred to as our “Medicaid Chassis.” The most pressing issue we faced was addressing issues around eligibility and operations. We had much work to do. In one year, I am pleased to report much progress.

With new leadership at the helm, and a focus on quality training and control, we have hired over three hundred new staff and successfully insourced eligibility for elderly, disabled and long-term care medical assistance programs. We have reported this progress regularly to the Robert G. (Bob) Bethell Joint Committee on Home and Community Based Services and KanCare Oversight. While not without a few bumps along the way, our work and progress has been well received by lawmakers on the committee. Our goal has, and continues to be, consistent and clear communication with lawmakers, advocates and stakeholders as we address challenges and successes.

I am pleased to stand before you today to assure you that KDHE stands both willing and able to implement the Medicaid Expansion, as outlined in Senate Bill 252.