Chairwoman Landwehr and Members of the Committee,

We appreciate this opportunity to submit written proponent testimony for HB 2049, which prohibits the Secretary of the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services from adopting guidelines that would require CNA training courses instruction to be longer than 75 hours. We hold the following position on HB 2049:

1. HB 2049 increases employment opportunities for Kansans.
2. HB 2049 reduces regulatory burden which is a drag on economic growth.

HB 2049 increases employment opportunities for Kansans.

Today, licensing burdens reduce employment opportunities for many Kansans, by increasing the barrier for people trying to improve their lives. In fact, research shows that in more onerously licensed states, recidivism rates are higher for ex-offenders due to decreased employment opportunities.[1] HB 2049 limit on CNA coursework increases employment opportunities and decreases recidivism.

HB 2049 reduces regulatory burden which is a drag on economic growth.

A recent national study found that governmental licensing barriers annual cost Kansas $197 million in reduced economic opportunies for consumers and producers and $3.1 billion in misallocated resources.[2] In other words, people are spending more than they would have and on different things relative to no regulatory burden. Along with continued Kansas licensing reforms, HB 2049 would make inroads inimproving opportunity and economic growth.

For these reasons, we urge the committee to pass HB 2049 in its current form.

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[1] Stephen Silvinski (2019), *Second Chances: The Importance of Occupational Licensing Reform to Arkansas's Criminal Justice Reform Initiatives*, Center for the Study of Economic Liberty Arizona State University, https://uca.edu/acre/files/2019/02/Slivinski-Snyder-Licensing-and-Recidivism-DIGITAL.pdf

[2] Kleiner, Morris Ph.D & Vorotnikov, Evgeny Ph.D (2018), *At What Cost? State and National Estimates of the Economic Costs of Occupational Licensing,* https://ij.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/Licensure_Report_WEB.pdf