House Health and Human Services Committee
Written Only Testimony in Support to House Bill 2157
Presented by William Wilk, Senior Director of Government Affairs

Thursday, January 29, 2026

Mister Chairman and members of the committee, my name is William Wilk, Senior Director of Government Affairs for the Kansas Chamber. The Kansas Chamber represents small, medium and large-sized businesses across the state, advocating for policies which improve the economic climate in Kansas. The Kansas Chamber appreciates the opportunity to submit proponent testimony to House Bill 2157, expanding the pharmacist's scope of practice to include point-of-care testing for and treatment of COVID-19.

Currently under the pharmacist scope of practice, they are allowed to test and provide treatment for influenza, streptococcal pharyngitis, and urinary tract infections. This bill would add COVID-19 testing and treatment to the list of diseases a pharmacist could test and provide treatment for in Kansas. This would not be something new for pharmacist as during the pandemic pharmacist in Kansas were authorized to conduct testing of COVID-19 by the United States Department of Health and Human Services under the PREP Act.

The healthcare industry is no outlier as Kansas faces workforce shortages across the state. The Kansas Chamber believes this bill will open up access to care for Kansans by reducing wait times, reducing costs, and providing access to faster treatment while not sacrificing the safety of Kansans.

In closing the Kansas Chamber views this bill as a positive step to increase access to care for Kansans, without sacrificing any safety concerns to those who need treatment the most. Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill 2157, and I am happy to answer any questions you might have at the appropriate time.