KACIL
Kansas Association of Centers for Independent Living

House Judiciary Committee
February 11, 2026
Supported Decision Making Agreements Act (HB2609)

Dear Chair and Committee Members,

The Kansas Association of Centers for Independent Living (KACIL) supports alternatives to guardianship which are often unnecessary and can create more burden for all parties involved. KACIL supports alternatives such as Supported Decision Making which brings together the individual and people they choose, like friends, family or professionals, to make knowledgeable choices in support of their goals and desires.

KACIL is comprised of seven Centers for Independent Living (CILs) who provide services to persons with disabilities, of all ages, all income levels and all types of disabilities. The majority of CIL employees and their board of directors are persons with disabilities. We feel this gives us a unique advantage to speak to the abilities of persons with disabilities to make decisions affecting their lives.

Supported Decision Making works –most of us use this model in our everyday lives. Through our work, KACIL members hear that families are encouraged to seek guardianship of their family members with disabilities. In fact, we have heard families say that people tell them they *must* seek guardianship. We hope to dispel this myth and promote self-determination for individuals.

While guardianship may be the right path for some individuals, this choice should be limited to a needed basis and not proposed as a necessary path.

KACIL Members:

Independence Inc., Lawrence KS
Independent Connection, Salina KS
Independent Living Resource Center, Wichita KS
LINK, Inc., Hays KS
Three Rivers Inc., Wamego KS
Resource Center for Independent Living Inc., Osage City KS
Beyond Barriers, Hutchinson