KANSAS ADVOCATES for BETTER CARE
better elder care, no matter where

February 11, 2026

RE: HB-2609, Proponent, Written-only testimony for House Judiciary Committee

Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony today. Kansas Advocates for Better Care (KABC) is a non-profit organization dedicated to improving the quality of long-term care for older adults, regardless of where they reside.

We appreciate your interest in HB-2609, Supportive Decision Making. (SDM). Unlike guardianship, Supported Decision Making empowers adults with disabilities to make their own decisions with the assistance of trusted friends or family, fostering self-determination and preserving dignity.

By legally recognizing this option, it would provide legal protection and make it easier for trusted family and friends to assist their loved ones. This option has the potential to save Kansas money by keeping people out of the court system, allowing the court to focus on necessary guardianship cases.

The current bill would define roles, establish agreements, and create safeguards against abuse. Passing this bill would save time and resources in probate courts, offering a less restrictive option than guardianship.

We encourage your support for this bill, as it aligns with ethical principles and promotes a more inclusive and empowering approach to decision-making for adults with disabilities.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Daniel Goodman

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