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Laura Howard, Secretary

Laura Kelly, Governor

Proponent Testimony

SB 414 - Authorizing funding from the evidence-based programs account to be used for licensed residential facilities that have behavioral health crisis intervention programs for juveniles; amending K.S.A. 2025 Supp. 65-536 and repealing the existing section

Senate Committee on Judiciary

February 3, 2026

Madam Chair Warren and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary:

The Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services (KDADS) stands in support for SB 414 which proposes authorizing funding from the evidence-based programs account to be used for licensed residential facilities that have behavioral health crisis intervention programs for juveniles, amending K.S.A. 2025 Supp. 65-536 and repealing the existing section.

SB 414 promotes the ability for funding to go to programs that work within the behavioral health continuum for youth in Kansas. KDADS continues to see positive results from youth receiving services from Children's Crisis Respite intervention, a potential program and facility expansion that would benefit from this amendment to current KSA and regulations. These services show that youth who experience a crisis situation benefit from a short-term intervention and stay at a crisis respite facility that can keep them closer to home and have less of a disruption to their normal, every day life. With this change in funding, KDADS would have the ability to develop more facilities in more communities for better outcomes for youths across Kansas.

KDADS urges you to consider the positive impact that SB 414 can have on Kansas youth and to support its passage.

Please don't hesitate to outreach if you have questions and thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Drew Adkins
Commissioner for Behavioral Health Services
Kansas Department for Aging & Disability Services