

March 14, 2023

**Written KSBHA Neutral Testimony for the Senate Committee on Federal and State Affairs
for SB 135**

Dear Chair and Honorable Committee Members:

The Kansas State Board of Healing Arts (“Board”) submits this written neutral testimony to assist legislators in evaluating provisions of SB 135. I am Courtney Cyzman, General Counsel of the Board, on behalf of the Board and Executive Director, Susan Gile. The Board is the executive body tasked with licensing and regulating 16 healthcare professions in Kansas, including physicians. *See* K.S.A. 65-2801 *et seq.* The Board is composed of 15 members, 12 of whom are licensed healthcare professionals from various professions, including eight licensed physicians. The statutory mission of the Board is patient protection. *See* K.S.A. 65-2801.

SB 135 would require significant, challenging, and important new work for the Board. In summary: (1) a physician must obtain a certificate from the Board authorizing the physician to recommend treatment with medical cannabis; (2) the certified physician must annually report to the Board on the physician’s observations as to the effectiveness of treatment; (3) the certified physician must annually complete two or more hours of continuing medical education on the treatment and use of medical cannabis; (4) the Board must approve one or more continuing medical education courses related to medical cannabis; and (5) the certified physician must pay an annual fee for certification.

In its current form, this bill requires that the Board approve of at least one continuing medical education (CME) course related to medical cannabis. Requirements for continuing education for physicians are mandated in K.S.A. 65-2809, K.AR. 100-15-14, and K.A.R. 100-15-5. The Board does not pre-approve CME courses for licensees. The Board would suggest the following edits to SB 135.

New Section 19, subsection (b), page 15, lines 35-38:

- Strike subsection (b) in its entirety.

New Section 18, subsection (g), page 14, lines 36-39, edit as follows:

- (g) Each year, a physician holding a certificate to recommend treatment with medical cannabis shall complete at least two hours of continuing medical education in the treatment with and use of medical cannabis ~~as approved by the board of healing arts.~~

Thank you for considering this testimony. I welcome any comments, questions, or further dialogue with members of the Committee. Please feel free to contact me at (785) 250-8021 or at any time via email at courtney.cyzman@ks.gov.

Sincerely,



Courtney Cyzman
General Counsel

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