



To: Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee

From: Travis R. Oller, DC
Executive Director
Kansas Chiropractic Association

Date: February 16, 2023

Subject: SB 82; AN ACT concerning health professions and practices; relating to the regulation of nursing; registered nurse anesthetists; authorizing independent practice and the prescribing of drugs; amending K.S.A. 65-1158 and repealing the existing section.

Proponent Testimony

Chairwoman Gossage and other committee members, I appreciate the opportunity to present written proponent testimony on SB 112.

Doctors of Chiropractic frequently refer to other healthcare professionals when the co-management of care or outright referral is more appropriate than chiropractic care alone. This includes the referral for pain management services provided by a physician anesthesiologist or a CRNA.

These referrals are common. However, under the current licensing system, Doctors of Chiropractic are unable to refer directly to the CRNA. The referral must first pass through another physician-level provider (or a PA or APRN) before the patient can be treated by the CRNA. These challenges are even more significant in western Kansas, where there is a shortage of anesthesiologists.

These additional referrals only increase healthcare costs to both the patient and their insurers. Additionally, this causes a delay in treatment when our patients need it most.

SB 112 will allow CRNAs to provide care more promptly to patients in areas of Kansas that are underserved by physician anesthesiologists.

We offer our support for SB 112 and ask the Senate Public Health and Welfare to recommend SB 112 favorable for passage.

Travis R. Oller, DC
Executive Director
Kansas Chiropractic Association