

Public Health and Welfare Committee,

RE: SB 404 Expedited Partner Therapy

My name is Jamie Harrington. I am an advanced practice registered nurse (APRN) and certified nurse-midwife (CNM). I frequently see patients in clinic that I need to prescribe expedited partner therapy. Since Kansas has no explicit language allowing this it makes it difficult to go ahead and do this. Many male partners and younger men are less likely to be willing to come in for treatment making it more difficult to get the sexually transmitted infection (STI) treated. Further those that do not get treated put their partners at risk of reinfection. This is also important in rural areas where people cannot always get transportation to the clinic. I see a lot of pregnant women that we routinely test for STIs during pregnancy and when they come up positive, it is important for me to be able to issue a prescription to the partner to expedite treatment. This reduces the risk to both mother and baby; where untreated STIs can cause significant problems for babies.

I am writing you to pass SB404 that allows prescribers like physicians, APRNs, and physician associates (PA)s to be able to utilize expedited partner therapy to improve outcomes and reduce STIs in the community.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Jamie Harrington, DNP, APRN, CNM, FNP-BC

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