



TO: House Health and Human Services Committee

FROM: Tara Mays, Vice President State Legislative Affairs

DATE: February 13, 2025

RE: House Bill 2219

The Kansas Hospital Association (KHA) appreciates the opportunity to submit comments in support of House Bill 2219.

Many Kansas hospitals struggle with getting professionals into the workforce quickly. This has a great impact to overall patient care.

Currently, physician assistants must carry licenses in each state that they see patients. Our KHA workforce committee that represents all regions of the state has expressed to us that Kansas should consider anything that is possible to expedite the process to getting healthcare professionals who want to serve in Kansas, seeing patients here in Kansas. After all, that is why most medical professionals serve in the industry is to serve their patients.

On January 28, KHA hosted a call with hospitals from around the state to discuss the steps to getting providers to be able to actually care for patients and bill for their services. The process includes licensing, obtaining a DEA number, access insurance through the Healthcare Stabilization Fund, review of the medical staff and governing boards. Finally, the provider has to receive credentialing by each of the insurance companies that may be billed. The entire process can take anywhere from 11 to more than 34 weeks.

Anything that can be done to reduce the time for each step is beneficial to both the provider and to the Kansans that they will serve. Our hospitals noted that while acquiring a multi-state license through a compact can be helpful, there are other areas of the licensure process that need to be addressed if the goal is to have a friendly and expedited process to move these professionals towards seeing patients more quickly.

While the contents of House Bill 2219 can speed up the process by approximately two weeks, we believe there is more work to be done in other areas of the process to get these needed healthcare professionals working.

KHA hopes that you will join us in supporting House Bill 2219, but also continuing to work on ways we can improve and shorten this process for these professionals in the future.