



WRITTEN TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 2386

March 5, 2025

Chair Carpenter, Vice Chair Bryce, Ranking Minority Member Ruiz, and House Health & Human Services Committee members:

The Kansas Chapter American Academy of Pediatrics (KAAP) represents more than 400 pediatricians and pediatric residents across our state. Our mission is to ensure that all Kansas children have the opportunity to grow up healthy, safe, and strong. HB 2386 is a commonsense, fiscally responsible measure that corrects outdated language in Kansas law to align with federal Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) regulations. CHIP was created in 1997 with bipartisan support to provide healthcare access for children in low-income, working families. It ensures access to routine checkups and vaccinations that keep children healthy and reduce costly emergency care in the long run.

HB 2386 does not expand eligibility—it simply ensures that Kansas law reflects current federal guidelines, allowing CHIP to operate efficiently and predictably without relying on annual budget provisos. HB 2386 eliminates this outdated language, ensuring that Kansas administers CHIP as intended, with automatic adjustments for eligibility based on the most recent federal poverty guidelines.

Additionally, this bill removes an outdated waiting period clause inconsistent with federal regulations. Kansas eliminated the waiting period for CHIP in 2019 through a state plan amendment, and HB 2386 formally aligns our statute with that change to maintain compliance.

By passing HB 2386, Kansas will improve the efficiency of CHIP, ensure responsible program oversight, and provide certainty for working families—all without increasing costs or expanding government programs. This practical, budget-neutral solution keeps Kansas in step with federal guidelines. We urge your support for this responsible and necessary update. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully submitted,
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Public Policy Chair