



Proponent Testimony re: SB 431
Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee
Submitted by John Monroe
On Behalf of the Kansas Association of Chain Drug Stores

Chair Gossage, Vice Chair Clifford, Ranking Member Holscher, and Members of the Committee,

My name is John Monroe, and I appear today on behalf of the Kansas Association of Chain Drug Stores (KACDS), which represents chain pharmacy operators across Kansas. Our member pharmacies employ more than 32,000+ Kansans and operate over 500+ pharmacy locations statewide, serving both urban and rural communities.

SB 431 is a common-sense modernization of Kansas pharmacy law that establishes a clear framework for the remote practice of pharmacy. Specifically, the bill allows an employing pharmacy to utilize licensed pharmacists, pharmacist interns, and trained pharmacy technicians as “remote workers” to perform certain pharmacy practice functions from a location outside of the physical pharmacy, while remaining under the supervision, accountability, and regulatory oversight of the employing pharmacy. Examples of this include the contacting of prescribers and patients, providing for the clarification and transfer of information, and the performing of communication and documentation functions.

SB 431 defines key terms, including “remote practice of pharmacy,” “remote worker,” and “employing pharmacy,” ensuring the law is structured and enforceable. The bill also establishes strict guardrails to protect patient safety and confidentiality. Remote work may only be conducted using secure remote work devices and in a remote practice area that prevents third-party observation or interference. SB 431 ensures patient privacy is maintained by prohibiting the printing of patient information at a remote location and requiring that patient information not exist in any non-electronic format at a remote practice area.

Importantly, SB 431 does not authorize remote workers to handle, package, compound, label, or dispense prescription drugs from outside the pharmacy. The bill maintains appropriate boundaries by limiting remote work to non-dispensing functions that support pharmacy operations, such as communications, documentation, and other workflow-related tasks that can safely occur off-site.

SB 431 also includes clear oversight requirements. The pharmacist-in-charge (PIC) must maintain a policy and procedure manual for remote practice that includes security protocols, inspection acknowledgment, routine audits, and continuous quality improvement measures. The employing pharmacy must also maintain an updated list of remote workers and establish procedures for supervision and communication, particularly for interns and technicians.



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Additionally, SB 431 outlines training and qualification standards for pharmacist interns and pharmacy technicians engaged in remote practice. Interns must have completed at least their first year of pharmacy school and remain in good standing. Pharmacy technicians must complete required training hours and certification requirements, ensuring remote work is performed only by individuals who are qualified and properly supervised.

SB 431 reflects how modern healthcare teams operate and provides pharmacies with a responsible tool to improve workflow, enhance staffing flexibility, and better serve Kansas patients, while maintaining appropriate safeguards and accountability.

For these reasons, KACDS believes SB 431 is a thoughtful, structured, and responsible approach to modernizing pharmacy operations in Kansas. It provides flexibility to address workforce and workflow challenges while preserving the strong oversight and safety standards Kansans expect.

On behalf of the Kansas Association of Chain Drug Stores, I respectfully urge your support of SB 431. Thank you for your time and consideration.