

**Committee on Aging and Long term Care**  
**January 18, 2012**

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Dear Chairperson Bethell and committee members,

Thank you for allowing me to testify in support of HB2424 which states that providers performing the planning, startup and administration of attendant care services for individuals in need of in-home care shall not be providers of the delivery of attendant care services for such individuals.

My name is Dr. Janet Williams and I own communityworks inc. I started my home health agency 21 years ago to provide whatever it takes for people with brain injuries to live in their own home and

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community. Since that time we have started providing case management for people on the physical disability (PD) and Frail Elder (FE) waivers. We are one of the only agencies providing case management for all three waivers. We do not provide any services for the Developmental Disability waiver (DD).

Last year we provided services to over 1,000 people from the Nebraska border to the Oklahoma border, west to Salina and East to Missouri. We average 75 intake calls a month for assistance.

Here are the top 3 reasons I believe Kansas should implement conflict free case management sooner rather than later:

1. Managed care is coming and rather than change everything at once, if a person knows who their Home and Community Based case manager is prior to the implementation of managed care, they will have an advocate on their side with daunting changes ahead.
2. Cost savings prior to managed care that could be used toward the waiting list. There are many examples of agencies referring back to themselves for care. It is not uncommon for some agencies to use those services (offering to increase attendant

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care hours for example) as a way to keep customers or entice them away from other agencies.

3. The most important area to implement this change would be with agencies who offer both case management and agency directed attendant care. Agencies profit more when they refer back to themselves and get paid a combined agency and administration rate. On November 1, 2011, a new Fiscal Management Service (FMS) was implemented. A number of agencies encouraged their customers to change from self-direct \*to agency direct services, which cost a lot more and offer the agency a greater profit. Nothing was done to stop this. There is nothing stopping them from continuing to sign consumers up that way. Conflict free case management would reverse that trend.

Managed care will achieve this same end, but waiting for another year will cost the State of Kansas more money, force people to choose a managed care organization, medical home, care coordinator, HCBS case manager and attendant care agency all at once. Implementing conflict free case management now will allow people to know who their HCBS case manager and attendant care provider are for the long haul, before they are forced to make many other changes.