Testimony to Aging and Long Term Care Committee Representative Bob Bethell, Chair Regarding HB 2424

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee, my name is Shannon Jones. I am the director of the Statewide Independent Living Council of Kansas, (SILCK). The SILCK envisions a world in which people with disabilities are valued equally and participate fully. To realize that vision, the SILCK works closely with the 12 Centers for Independent Living to promote productivity and economic self sufficiency for people with all types of disabilities of any age.

I appreciate the opportunity to speak to HB 2424 in a neutral position. It appears the bill calls for a separation of duties in the delivery of attendant care services or conflict free management of services.

The KanCare program and Medicaid reforms address the issue of conflict free case management and the delivery of in home services. These new reforms are intended to do exactly what this bill calls for; ensuring there is a firewall between case management services and assessment services.

Under the new plan, Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRC) will be the selected entity that performs all assessments. The ADRCs are not allowed to also provide case management services. The ADRC will make referrals to a separate case management entity, ensuring a conflict free arrangement for the delivery of in home services. These case management services will be contracted through the managed care company.

These reforms will be effective January 1, 2013.

In conclusion, we do not see a need for HB2424.