

## House Health and Human Services Committee HB 2428 – Health Care Provider Definition Mary Jane Stankiewicz Director of Government Relations and Communications January 23, 2012

Good morning, Chair Landwehr and members of the House Health and Human Services Committee. I am Mary Jane Stankiewicz, the Director of Government Relations and Communications for the Kansas Board of Regents and I appear in support of HB 2428.

The Kansas Board of Regents supports this bill because we believe it corrects a technical oversight that occurred in 1998 when the University of Kansas Hospital Authority separated from the University of Kansas Medical Center. After the legal separation, KUMC no longer was considered a health care provider even though they qualified prior to the separation. Everyone agrees that this was an oversight that should be fixed for the benefit of all.

KUMC needs the protection that this statute will give them so they can engage in risk management and peer review. This bill would provide this protection and thus allow KUMC the ability to participate in discussions intended to identify, correct and improve the quality of care at the Medical Center.

We would ask for your support of HB 2428.