

Testimony In Support of HB2520

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House Health & Human Services Committee

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Thank you for the opportunity to appear before your Committee in support of HB2520. I want to offer only brief comments and allow ample time for the other conferees to speak.

I would respectfully ask you to consider that in supporting HB2520, an interstate health care compact, we are simply asking you to support a change in the "governance" of health care-related decisions. HB2520 does not ask you to set specific health care "policy." Again, HB2520 is about *governance reform*, not *policy reform*.

In short, we are asking you to join other states, and petition Congress to consent to an interstate health care compact that would allow member states the opportunity to bring health care decisions "closer to home" by allowing state legislatures to set health care policy that is best suited to their individual states as it relates to non-military health care goods and services.

It is indisputable that health care reform is a critically important issue for almost every Kansan. The expectation of your constituency is that elected officials, on any/all levels will help fix the problems. As state legislators, you have limited opportunities to effect change on many of the more significant health care policy issues. The passage of HB2520 is a great first step to empowering states and bringing the decision-making closer to the people.

I would greatly appreciate your support of HB2520 and am happy to answer any questions at the appropriate time Madame Chair.