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House Concurrent Resolution No. 5031

By Joint Committee on Kansas Security

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A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION urging the United States Department of Defense to reevaluate the types of treatment facilities where the TRICARE military health care program provides coverage of substance abuse treatment and to seriously consider allowing coverage in less restrictive outpatient environments.

WHEREAS, The United States Department of Defense requires that substance abuse treatment, referred to as substance use disorder treatment (SUD), covered by the TRICARE military health care program must be provided in an authorized hospital or a treatment program in an authorized freestanding or hospital-based substance abuse treatment program; and

WHEREAS, Kansas community mental health centers are not hospitals and do not meet the requirements for freestanding or hospital-based substance abuse treatment programs; and

WHEREAS, Restrictions on the types of facilities where TRICARE SUD treatment may be provided were adopted in the late 1970s, while current treatment models permit active treatment in less restrictive outpatient environments; and

WHEREAS, Other insurers provide coverage of substance abuse treatment provided to many Kansans by community mental health centers and other state licensed community-based providers; and

WHEREAS, The military is facing growing demand for substance abuse and mental health services and their own SUD treatment programs are routinely reserved for active duty service members; and

WHEREAS, Kansans covered by TRICARE are dispersed throughout the state, many in areas where there are few, if any, SUD treatment providers: Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Kansas, the Senate concurring therein: That the Legislature urges the United States Department of Defense to reevaluate requirements placed on the types of facilities where TRICARE provides coverage of SUD treatment and give serious consideration to allowing coverage of treatment provided in less restrictive outpatient environments, including community mental health centers and other state licensed community-based providers, without regard to whether the client has a mental health diagnosis; and

Be it further resolved: That the Secretary of State is directed to send enrolled copies of this resolution to the President of the United States, to

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the United States Secretary of Defense and to each member of the Kansas
Congressional delegation.

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