

**From:** <Kuet@aol.com>  
**To:** <health@house.state.ks.us>  
**Date:** Tue, Feb 10, 2004 10:58 AM  
**Subject:** HB 2538

Dear Chairman Morrison and Committee Members:

Thank you for allowing me to appear before you today in support of HB 2538.

Simply, this legislation establishes a drug repository program to account and dispense donated prescription drugs.

My support of this proposal comes from a very personal nature. In January of 1998, my husband, John, died from lung cancer. Even though his disease took him quickly, we accumulated vast amounts of various drugs, prescribed to help John.

After his death, it was overwhelming to open up the bathroom closet door and to see the shelves filled with prescription drugs that now, I had no use for. My thought was that I could simply give the medicine back...and that was not the case. And not only was the sheer amount too much to think about dealing with, knowing just how much money had been spent...some of his shots cost over \$1,000.00 a piece...now all of this medicine was going to be thrown out! I only wanted somebody else to be able to use it. This bill allows that to happen.

A year after my husband died, one of his best friends died. Having gone through the experience, I went to the house and cleared out all medication, oxygen bottles, etc. These are things those left behind, don't want to see or deal with after the death of a loved one.

This bill will help those in need, who can't necessarily get the medication they need due to the sheer cost of rising health care costs. It will help survivors to move on and perhaps give some peace of mind that others have benefited from medication, despite our loss. I know I would have.

Please support HB 2538 favorably.

Thank you.

Annie Kuether  
55th District