

Testimony in Support of House Bill 2658

To: Chairman Jim Morrison and Members,
House Health and Human Services Committee
From: Debra Zehr, Vice President
Date: February 17, 2004

Thank you, Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee for this opportunity to offer support for House Bill 2658. The Kansas Association of Homes and Services for the Aging represents over 160 not-for-profit long-term health care, housing, and community service providers throughout the state.

House Bill 2658 would address a concern shared by many of our members. It calls for formation of an independent review panel for processing of state adult care home inspection results with which an administrator disagrees.

Under the current system, KDHE staff members, who are themselves responsible for oversight and administration of the survey process, conduct the review of disputed deficiencies. We believe it makes sense to have this informal dispute resolution process handled in a way that is as independent and objective as possible. This bill would mark a constructive step toward that end.

Thank you for your favorable consideration of House Bill 2658. I would be happy to answer questions.