



Date: March 15, 2004

To: House Committee on Health & Human Services

From: Kevin J. Robertson, CAE  
Executive Director

**RE: Testimony on SB 425**

Chairman Morrison and members of the committee I am Kevin Robertson, executive director of the Kansas Dental Association (KDA) representing 1,168, or some 80% of the state's licensed dentists. I am here today in support of SB 425.

As requested by the Kansas Dental Board, the bill would simply provide the Dental Board the ability to better work within its rulemaking authority to craft Administrative Rules and Regulations regarding the use of varying levels of sedation in the dental office. The KDA is currently working with a task force of the Dental Board on this issue. The amendments in Section 1 do make some grammatical changes in the dental practice act, however, the bill makes no changes in the scope of service that any member of the dental team – dentists, dental hygienists or dental assistants - can perform.

New section 2 was added in the Senate Committee after a constituent complained that a dentist she was seeing for treatment did not have professional liability insurance. After discussing this with the KDA governing board, it was determined it would be best to rectify this with an amendment to this bill. It is the KDA's belief that nearly all dentists carry some level of professional liability insurance, therefore, this amendment will affect very few dentists. The KDA worked with the Senate Committee on the amendment to exempt those dentists who may be retired and maintaining a license only to practice in charity settings under KSA 75-6102 - like a local health department or the Kansas Mission of Mercy project.

Thank you for your time today, I am happy to answer any questions you may have at this time. I urge you to **vote YES on SB 425**.