



Thomas L. Bell  
President and CEO

TO: Senate Ways and Means Committee

FROM: Chad Austin, Senior Vice President Government Relations  
Deborah Stern, Senior Vice President Clinical Services and General Counsel

RE: Senate Bill 235 – Personal and Family Protection Act

DATE: March 23, 2017

The Kansas Hospital Association (KHA) appreciates the opportunity to provide comments **in support** of Senate Bill 235. Those who work in the health care arena in any part of our state clearly understand the very emotional and tense environment in which hospital staff assess and treat patients. Every day in Kansas hospitals, devastating diagnoses are shared and true life and death decisions are made by patients, families and providers. The freedom of a hospital board of directors, or a hospital administrator, to manage their emotionally charged environment is important to our medical facilities.

The provisions of SB 235, which address permitting concealed carry weapons in state and municipal buildings, would not apply to state and municipal-owned medical care facilities. We agree that the unusually stressful environment of a hospital setting should not be the place for weapons of any kind. For these reasons, KHA supports Senate Bill 235 as written.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.