



**Testimony to the Senate Ways and Means Committee
In Support of SB235
March 23, 2017**

Sen. McGinn and Committee Members,

The Kansas Association of Chiefs of Police supports SB235 with respect to continuing the exemption for certain medical facilities allowing the prohibition of concealed carry. Our experience tells us there are many confrontational situations, especially in emergency care areas. There are also reasonable concerns with allowing concealed carry in areas where persons with mental health conditions are being treated. Allowing concealed carry in these areas seems contradictory to good security practices especially considering there is no longer a requirement to have a permit or training to carry concealed in Kansas.

While current law allows for screening for weapons, that clearly comes at a significant cost. Health care costs are rising rapidly enough without adding these expenses. In addition, rural hospitals are currently struggling to stay in business. These additional expenses will just add to their financial burdens.

We believe the balance between the costs and risks tips toward continuation of the exemptions for the listed medical facilities. We ask you to move the bill forward favorably.

Ed Klumpp
Legislative Committee Chair