STATE OF KANSAS

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Testimony concerning Sub for HB 2331 Senate Committee on Ways and Means March 13, 2018

Madam Chair and Members of the Committee:

Last year, the Kansas State Board of Pharmacy presented neutral testimony detailing concerns and questions related to the formation of the Kansas Information Technology Enterprise (KITE) and its authority to direct and utilize IT resources of <u>all</u> executive branch agencies, including funds and personnel. This year, the Board is pleased to provide support for the amended language of Senate Substitute for House Bill 2331. Thanks to the leadership of CITO Donna Shelite, the Board and many of our sister small agencies have been provided several opportunities to review and discuss a workable model that meets the needs and addresses the concerns of all parties. This new language is a representation of the CITO's (and staff's) willingness to consider and implement a feasible and effective framework.

The Board appreciates the opportunity to work with State IT leadership to review and provide feedback on this bill. As a result, our questions have been answered and the Board feels strongly that the intent of this bill, both in black and white and in between the lines, is consistent with carrying out the Board's mission while ensuring proper executive branch checks and balances. While some provisions of the bill may require action on our part, they are manageable changes that should benefit the agency and provide adequate policies and procedures for timely review and response, or even allow the CITO to authorize an exception. In addition, there is clear direction that the CITO will engage with the executive branch agency leadership to set priorities, provide assistance, and create IT plans. Moreover, it is evident that these efforts are already underway. As such, the Board supports this new language and hopes the Committee will move it forward.

The mission of the Board is to ensure that all persons and entities conducting business relating to the practice of pharmacy in Kansas are properly licensed and registered. The Board licenses and registers approximately 6,000 pharmacists, 8,000 pharmacy technicians, and 5,600 pharmacies and facilities in and outside of Kansas. The Board's duties also include conducting regular facility inspections, processing changes and renewals, and investigating all complaints. In addition, the Board administers the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (K-TRACS), which tracks all controlled substance prescriptions for Kansas patients.

Respectfully submitted.