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Testimony re: HB 2082 House Health & Human Services Committee Presented by Julie Hein on behalf of The Kansas Pharmacists Association and The Kansas Association of Chain Drug Stores February 6, 2019

Madam Chairman, Members of the Committee:

My name is Julie Hein, and I am representing the Kansas Pharmacists Association (KPhA) and the Kansas Association of Chain Drug Stores (KACDS) working together in support of HB 2082. There are 518 Pharmacies in Kansas, employing a total of 31,000 PT and FT employees, with total of 1831 Community Pharmacists working across the state.

The KPhA and KACDS support HB 2082.

This bill allows a person to request a pharmacist to administer a prescribed medication that the person would otherwise self administer. Examples of people that would benefit, include individuals suffering from mental illness, those that are visually impaired, disabled individuals, and individuals with a problem of self injecting. 40 other states allow Pharmacists to administer prescribed medications for better patient care, better adherence and better outcomes.

Pharmacists are highly educated, trusted, and easily accessible healthcare professionals who provide patients with important patient care services, including medication administration services. Pharmacists, who are notably already permitted to administer vaccines to patients in all 50 states, are trained and experienced in drug administration techniques and practices. The majority of states explicitly permit pharmacists to perform drug administration pursuant to a prescription or otherwise recognize pharmacists' ability to provide this service to patients. Please see the attached map provided by NASPA (the National Alliance of State Pharmacy Associations).

The National Alliance of State Pharmacy Associations (NASPA) and the College of Psychiatric and Neurologic Pharmacists (CPNP) created a medication administration stakeholder group. They report that ... "There is a need for increased access to medication administration services for many types of medications, such as those used to treat osteoporosis, specialty medications, and supplements that must be provided by a health care professional. Additionally, there are a variety of self administered injectable medications that patients or caregivers are expected to administer at home. In some cases, due to dexterity deficiencies, fear of needles, or other challenges, there is a need for a highly accessible health care provider to provide medication administration services for the patient.

The Medication Administration Stakeholder Group concludes ... "These recommendations encompass all non-vaccine medications, and also specifically address the administration of long-acting injectable (LAI) antipsychotic medications, a class of medications that has a clear public health need for increased access."

We urge the committee to support HB 2082.

Thank you for permitting me to testify, I am happy to respond to questions.