TESTIMONY OF ASHLEY EICHELBERGER HOUSE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE PROPONENT REGARDING HB 2295 FEBRUARY 18, 2019

Dear Chairwoman Landwehr,

I am writing this letter today to show my full support for the Licensure of Certified Anesthesiologist Assistants in the state of Kansas. The bill I am referring to was assigned to HB 2295. I am a second-year Anesthesiologist Assistant student at the University of Missouri – Kansas City in Kansas City, Missouri.

I attended Pittsburg State University in Pittsburg, Kansas where I earned my Bachelor of Science in Biology. There I learned the hard work and dedication it takes to be a part of the medical field. To be able to apply to the Anesthesiologist Assistant program at UMKC, I had to attain a minimum of a 3.0 in various biology classes including human anatomy, physiology, and medical terminology along with chemistry classes including general chemistry, biochemistry, organic 1 and organic 2 chemistry. The Medical College Admission Test is also required to gain entrance into the MSA program at UMKC. Shadowing hours with an anesthesiologist and CAA showed me the powerful dynamic the anesthesia care team has in taking great care of patients. I knew that I could use my knowledge from undergrad and from UMKC to take excellent care of patients within the anesthesia care team.

I grew up in a small town in Missouri five miles from the Kansas border. Both of my parents are originally from Kansas and my extended family all currently reside in Kansas. With strong ties to Kansas, I hope that one day I will be able to practice in Kansas. It is very important to me that I am able to live and work close to my family. Licensure in Kansas would ensure I would be able to do that.

Sincerely,

Ashley Eichelberger