

To: House Committee on Health and Human Services

From: Kerri Mosinski, Chief Administrative Officer of Midland Care Connection, Inc.

Date: February 13, 2023

RE: Testimony in Opposition to HB2340

Chair Brenda Landwehr and Members of the Health and Human Services Committee – Thank you for the opportunity to address your Committee.

Midland Care Connection is a non-profit community care provider whose aim is to improve the quality of life and to keep older adults at home and independent. Midland Care provides care and services to 2,000 people across 22 counties in Northeast Kansas. The services Midland Care provides include PACE, hospice, home health, private duty home health, meals on wheels, palliative care and grief and loss counseling services. The Midland Care PACE program serves 500 participants in 12 Northeast Kansas counties with PACE Centers in Topeka, Lawrence, Emporia and Kansas City, Kansas. Midland Care PACE is set to expand to Johnson, Miami and Franklin Counties with a PACE Center in Olathe.

We employ 19 Masters Prepared Social Workers at Midland Care and I am licensed as a Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW) in Colorado.

Reciprocity between states for LCSWs:

I became a LCSW in 1990 in the state of California after successfully completing a written exam and an oral exam. I moved to Colorado in 1993 and transferred my LCSW to Colorado using reciprocity. This happened quickly and easily.

I moved to Kansas in 2018 and have been unsuccessful in my attempt to get my LCSW transferred from Colorado to Kansas. The process to get reciprocity between states is very difficult and cumbersome in Kansas. I continue to keep my license active in Colorado due to this issue. I have met all of the requirements to get a LCSW in Kansas. The holdup is that the state of Kansas requires states where you have held a license to complete a Kansas mandated form which shows dates of licensure and certifies the applicant is in good standing. The staff at the equivalent agency in the state of Colorado state they do not complete those forms and I have a letter to that effect. BSRB staff in Kansas has told me repeatedly to get Colorado to complete the form. I have been unable to effectively navigate how to resolve this issue.

I oppose the wording to require LCSWs from another state to have practiced for three years before they are eligible for reciprocity in the state of Kansas. The other levels of social work licensure only require one year of practice and I believe this should be the case for LCSWs

If I had my LCSW in Kansas, I could provide the 19 Master's prepared social workers who work at Midland Care with clinical supervision to help them to become LCSWs. This would increase the skills of the Midland Care social workers and improve the care they provide to frail, elderly clients across our programs and service area. Midland Care does not have any LCSWs on staff.

Board Approved Supervisor Mandate:

In the state of Kansas, it is a difficult process to locate a LCSW to provide clinical supervision as a Master's prepared social worker trying to obtain their LCSW. If HB2340 is adopted as written, it will become even more difficult to find a LCSW willing and qualified to provide clinical supervision.

Throughout my rather lengthy career as a LCSW, I have provided clinical supervision to roughly 250 Master's prepared social workers on their path to become LCSWs. I have never charged a social worker for supervision as I have felt it was my way of giving back to my profession and helping to grow the next generation of social workers. It is a big ask (time, money and frustration) to have an LCSW complete the additional hurdles for the pleasure of being a clinical supervisor:

- Submit an application
- Pay an additional fee
- Attend three hours of continuing education

I oppose the requirement for a board approved supervisor as I believe it will greatly impact the number of LCSWs who are able to obtain clinical supervision and the number of LCSWs in Kansas will continue to shrink as LCSWs retire and exit the work force.

Thank you for allowing me to testify.