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Healthy People Build Strong Communities

**Testimony by Dennis Kriesel with the Kansas Association of Local Health
Departments (KALHD) to
Senate Committee on Commerce**

Written-Only Neutral on SB 282 • March 8, 2023

Chair Erickson and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide neutral testimony in writing regarding Senate Bill 282, a bill relating to child care licensing requirements. KALHD is a nonprofit association dedicated to strengthening local health departments for the purpose of improving and protecting the health of all Kansans and consists of all 100 local health departments in Kansas.

While KALHD as an organization does not have a legislative position on child care licensing at this time, we do have concerns with the proposed changes in Section 12 that would mandate all inspections be via KDHE staff. We are concerned about the ramifications of severing local relationships that presently exist with this sort of state-level takeover of the licensing inspection role. Local health departments that engage in this work have spent years establishing relationships with their communities' child care providers and we have concerns this alteration may compromise the present level of service provided via local means.

Thank you for reading our concerns relating to SB 282.

Sincerely,

Dennis Kriesel

Executive Director, Kansas Association of Local Health Departments