



Kansas Hospital
ASSOCIATION

TO: Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee

FROM: Tara Mays, Vice President State Legislative Relations

DATE: March 14, 2023

RE: Support of House Bill 2408

On behalf of the Kansas Hospital Association (KHA) members, we appreciate the opportunity to provide written support of House Bill 2408.

This legislation assists with clarifying a long-standing confusion around the rules and regulations provided in this area and we appreciate the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services work with us over the last year to provide clarity in statutory intent for the processes followed in hospitals and long-term care settings.

Currently, we have hospital facilities that handle the services in a variety of ways. For example, some may transport patients to licensed salons, and some allow a licensed cosmetologist to come into the facility for the purpose of providing these services.

KHA supports the ability of hospitals and adult care homes to allow for cosmetology services as it works best in the communities where those facilities are located. In Kansas, we know that what works in one area of the state may not be the best solution in other areas. Each hospital, just as each Kansas community, has its own unique structure and practices related to these important services; allowing that flexibility means patients have better options in getting these services while allowing providers and hospital administrators to focus on the patient's health outcomes.

We believe that HB 2408 allows hospitals and nursing facilities to have flexibility in finding solutions that work well for the facilities, the healthcare staff, the providing cosmetologists, and most importantly, work well for patients and their families. Additionally, this legislation clarifies on-site facilities do not need to be licensed salons by the Board of Cosmetology or Barbering, in instead requires facilities to meet KDADS and CMS regulations, which we believe is more appropriate for the services being provided.

Requiring Kansas hospitals and nursing homes to meet salon licensing requirements would add regulatory hurdles and take focus away from patient care. This legislation clarifies the regulatory oversight and reduces redundancy in oversight agencies.

We ask that the committee recommend House Bill 2408 favorably for passage.