

Senate Committee on Public Health and Welfare Proponent Testimony on Senate Bill 103 Presented by William Wilk, Senior Director of Government Affairs

Thursday, February 1, 2024

Madam Chair and members of the committee, my name is William Wilk, Senior Director of Government Affairs for the Kansas Chamber. The Kansas Chamber appreciates the opportunity to submit proponent testimony to Senate Bill 103, a bill relating to the regulation of dentists.

The Kansas Chamber very much supports the opportunity for business growth and development within our state. In our current state statues relating to the regulation of dentistry, K.S.A. 65-1435 requires dentist to spend 20% of their time in an office location treating and seeing patients. This statute prevents a dentist from opening multiple office locations contracting their ability to grow one's business practice while creating a lack of access to dental care. If a dentist is allowed to open multiple office locations across the state patients would see increased access to dental care across the state.

When it comes to the treatment and quality of care for any health-related concerns of Kansans the Kansas Chamber believes in upholding the best and highest quality of care for all health practices, without restricting scope of practice or competition. Seante Bill 103 would repeal K.S.A. 65-1435 allowing a dentist to expand one's practice across the state. Dentists will still be seeing and treating patients with the same high-quality care and safety that is required and expected of one providing oral hygiene.

The Kansas Chamber will continue to support the deregulation of business practices, without sacrificing any safety concerns when it comes to the regulation of health-related issues and practices.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today in support of Senate Bill 103, and I am happy to answer any questions you might have at the appropriate time.