



March 21, 2023

Senate Ways and Means Committee
Testimony in Support of SB 307

Chairman Billinger and Members of the Committee,

The Behavioral Health Association of Kansas (BHAK) is the state's trade organization dedicated to substance use disorder (SUD) treatment and prevention providers seeking integrated behavioral health care. BHAK believes that true integrated behavioral health means access and funding for mental illness and substance use disorder treatment without regard to where a consumer seeks services. We appreciate the growing awareness of how substance use disorder affects everyone, particularly as a result of the impact of the pandemic. Addictions issues impact health care, employment, public safety, child welfare, and we support your investment of energy and resources.

We have supported the Kansas Fights Addictions Act when it was created and at the time, we spoke in support of the broadest number of eligible applicants for the grant funds. We support Senate Bill 307 because the substance use disorder crisis requires the efforts of everyone who can provide prevention and treatment services. We trust the Kansas Fights Addictions Review Board and the process that will ensure only qualified recipients will be appropriately evaluated before being entrusted with these valuable resources to help address the need in all our communities.

This Act, including the amendment in SB 307, will help all Kansans and we urge your support.

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