Office of the Secretary Curtis State Office Building 1000 SW Jackson St., Suite 540 Topeka, KS 66612-1367

Lee A. Norman, M.D., Secretary



Phone: 785-296-0461 www.kdheks.gov

Laura Kelly, Governor

Testimony on HB 2151

House Children and Seniors Committee

Kendra Baldridge, Director

Bureau of Community Health Systems

Kansas Department of Health and Environment

Chair Concannon and members of the Committee, my name is Kendra Baldridge, and I serve as the Director of Community Health Systems for the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Division of Public Health. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB 2151.

As proposed, HB 2151 would create a Kansas elder and dependent adult abuse multidisciplinary team for each judicial district. Since most elder mistreatment cases involve more than one kind of abuse and multidisciplinary teams bring together professionals from different disciplines to review cases of elder abuse and address systemic problems revealed by cases.

The Department of Health and Environment supports the creation of multidisciplinary teams in order to create a collaborative and innovative approach to reducing elder abuse. Thank you for the opportunity to share the importance of this bill.