



Tom Bell  
President and CEO

TO: House Insurance Committee

FROM: Chad Austin  
Vice President, Government Relations

DATE: February 15, 2012

RE: House Bill 2565

The Kansas Hospital Association appreciates the opportunity to comment in support of House Bill 2565, which requires health insurance issuers to respond appropriately to a physician's request regarding an individual patient's expected benefits coverage for medical services.

The subject of health care data transparency in general, and health care pricing specifically, has been an issue of policy discussion and development for our membership over the past several years. Throughout these discussions, our members have been unanimous in their belief that as we move towards a more consumer-driven health care marketplace that transparency of all health care data will be a key component for consumers, employers and policy makers.

The amount of information being requested of health care providers has grown tremendously over the past few years. While many of these programs are well-intended, the resources required to meet these requirements are somewhat demanding. The Kansas Hospital Association has developed a list of guiding principles to be considered when evaluating health care transparency programs. Among these principles include the responsibility that all parts of the health care industry be accountable for sharing information publicly regarding health care pricing, including health insurance issuers.

KHA believes House Bill 2565 would provide the necessary tools to obtain pertinent information regarding a patient's out-of-pocket expenses for physician services in a timely manner.

KHA urges a favorable adoption of House Bill 2565. Thank you for your consideration of our comments.

House Insurance  
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