

March 16, 2004

Re: SB 466

Mr. Chairman:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today in support of SB 466.

The idea for this bill originated from our Johnson County District Attorney, Paul Morrison. This legislation would allow a physician or optometrist to report to the appropriate authorities a condition in a patient that could, in the physician's or optometrist's professional judgment, prevent that patient from safely operating a motor vehicle.

This bill would allow such reporting without violation of the Physician-Patient privilege. Safeguards for physicians and optometrists have been built into the bill to ensure that a physician or optometrist has no duty to report.

SB 466 passed the Senate on February 27, 2004, on a vote of 34 - 6. I encourage your support, and would be happy to answer questions.

Barbara P. Allen
Senator, District 8