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Kari M. Bruffett, Secretary

Sam Brownback, Governor

To: Committee on Health and Human Services

From: Joe Ewert
Commissioner of Survey Certification and Credentialing

Date: March 10, 2015

Subject: SB 142, An Act concerning programs for all-inclusive care for the elderly

Chairman Hawkins and members of the Committee:

I appreciate the opportunity to present testimony in support of SB 142. This legislation amends Section 1, 29 (b) of K.S.A. 2014 Supp. 39-923 to include services provided for Medicare and Medicaid services as a program for all-inclusive care for the elderly (PACE).

PACE provides innovative, person-centered care for older adults that allow them to stay in their homes and communities and out of nursing homes. The legislation provides changes requested by PACE entities and will assist in the expansion of PACE programs in new regions and will streamline the process for developing new PACE centers in Kansas.

Previously, KDADS maintained regulatory oversight through both the PACE program and the adult care home licensure program, with both entities conducting separate routine inspections. While there is a difference in language, the PACE program regulations cover the same operations as the adult care home licensure regulations. The bill will not reduce the State or Federal governments' ability to oversee and protect PACE program participants, but it will reduce duplications in the State inspection process.

There are no known costs associated with this action.