



House Health and Human Services Committee

Testimony on Senate Bill 211
from the Kansas Pharmacists Association

Submitted by Mike Larkin, KPhA Executive Director

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Chairman Landwehr and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for allowing the Kansas Pharmacists Association to provide testimony today on Senate Bill 211 concerning the dispensing of prescriptions in Kansas. The Kansas Pharmacists Association is neutral on this bill; however, please consider the following during your deliberations.

Passage of Senate Bill 211 has the potential to save time and ease aggravation for both patients and pharmacists by allowing the pharmacist to fill prescriptions for up to 90 days.

While we have the utmost confidence in the professional judgment of Kansas' highly trained pharmacists, there may be times when a physician has designed a complicated dosing regimen for a patient--to test the drug's efficacy, for example--that shouldn't be later changed by a pharmacist. Senate Bill 211 has the potential to assume the physician's reasoning for prescribing a 30-day dosage by allowing a pharmacist fill the prescription for up to 90 days. If a pharmacist fills a 90-day supply of a drug that the doctor only intended for 30 days, and if the drug did not work for the patient during the initial 30 days, then the remaining 60 days of the filled prescription would be wasted.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide this testimony. Thank you.