

**Testimony on HB 2416
to**

House Committee on Health and Human Services

**Presented by Bob Moser, MD
Secretary, Kansas Department of Health and Environment**

February 13, 2012

Chairwoman Landwehr, and members of the Committee, good afternoon and thank you for giving me the opportunity to appear before you today. Today I am here to provide testimony related to HB 2416, which finishes the codification in statute of the actions taken through Executive Reorganization Order (ERO) 38 to transition duties from the Kansas Health Policy Authority (KHPA) to the Division of Health Care Finance (DHCF) within the Kansas Department of Health and Environment.

I would like to take a few minutes to provide an update on the consolidation resulting from ERO 38. Discussions between management staff that were necessary to achieve the consolidation began in early 2011. The main goal of all involved was to create a transition that would minimize disruption to the clients and providers in the Medicaid program, while allowing the agency to realize targeted reductions in expenditures and staffing.

In May 2011 the agency forwarded a plan to reduce the combined agency staff by 38.0 FTE and save the state \$1.0 million in State General Funds. On July 1, 2011, with a new organizational plan in hand we became one agency. Our first actions were to consolidated management and central service activities such as fiscal, legal, information technology, and human resource services. Over the course of FY 2012 we are continuing to blend the cultures of the two agencies.

During the transition we believe that the end consumers of Medicaid services, the patients and their health care professionals, have been well-served and that the consolidation has been a non-event to those outside of the agency. I feel this consolidation has resulted in a change that has been as seamless as we could have possibly hoped for and I am proud to stand before you today and declare this transition a success.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak with you today. I would be glad to stand for any questions the Committee might have.

Bob Moser, M.D.

Secretary, Kansas Department of Health and Environment