



Education Budget Committee
Testimony on House Bill 2236

From the Kansas Pharmacists Association

Submitted by Mike Larkin, KPhA Executive Director

February 25, 2013

Chairman Cassidy and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for allowing the Kansas Pharmacists Association to provide testimony today on House Bill 2236 concerning the Pharmacy Student Loan Act. The Kansas Pharmacists Association is a state professional society of pharmacists, united for, and dedicated to, the advancement and promotion of quality public health. The Kansas pharmacists Association is the only state-wide association in Kansas that represents Kansas pharmacists in all practice settings.

The Kansas Pharmacists Association is in favor of this bill as written with one qualification. Section 5 (c) stipulates that a person receiving such a loan must “engage in the full-time practice of pharmacy *and surgery* for a period of 12 months within a service area...”. While I am confident that the majority of pharmacy students have the intellectual capacity and dexterity to acquire skills needed to practice surgery, to my knowledge none have been trained to do so in the course of study leading to a Doctor of Pharmacy degree. We recommend striking “*and surgery*” from the legislation.

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