



To: House Health and Human Services Committee

From: Rachelle Colombo
Director of Government Affairs

Date: January 26, 2017

Subject: HB 2107; biosimilars

The Kansas Medical Society appreciates the opportunity to appear today on HB 2107, establishing regulations for biosimilars. Though we do not have a position on the substance of the bill, we support provisions included requiring communication back to the prescribing physician and the "dispense as written" provision.

As the committee heard from other conferees, it is important for the physician to hear back from the dispenser any time the prescription is altered. Like generic drug substitutions, biosimilars are intended to be interchangeable with biologics, and in most cases they expect no discernible difference.

A physician may have experience prescribing a generic and seeing that though it is chemically similar it doesn't have the same efficacy for their patient. For a variety of reasons protecting the health of the patient, the physician needs to know if a substitution was made and have the ability to direct that the prescription is dispensed as written.

We respectfully request that when the committee considers HB 2107, they maintain these provisions. Thank you.