

Kansas Department of
Social and Rehabilitation Services
Don Jordan, Secretary



House Appropriations Committee
April 3, 2008

SB 656 – Home & Community Based Services – Long Term Care

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Chairwoman Schwartz and members of the Committee, I am Don Jordan, Secretary of Social and Rehabilitation Services. Thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today to testify in favor of SB 656 as amended. I have worked with Secretary Greenlee on this bill and she is also in agreement with the bill as amended.

Senate Bill 656 provides for a comprehensive, statewide system for long-term care services. In addition, the bill states that this system will be built on the values of self-direction, individual choice, home and community settings and privacy. The system would also be transparent, accountable, ensure safety and timely access to high quality services. It further directs that money follows the person into the community when individuals receiving long-term care services move from nursing facilities to home and community-based services.

SB 656 stipulates that such a system be designed and implemented by Kansas Health Policy Authority (KHPA), Department on Aging (KDOA), and the Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services (SRS) in collaboration with stakeholders and advocates related to long-term care services

SRS supports SB 656 with amendments, and its customer centered values of self-direction, prompt access to high quality services, safety and accountability, as well as the collaboration that will occur between KDOA, KHPA and other stakeholders to create and maintain a system of long term care that will serve one of our most vulnerable populations.

This concludes my testimony and I would be glad to answer any questions the Committee may have.