



MainStream Coalition
5960 Dearborn, #213
Mission, KS 66202-9905
(913) 649-3326
mainstreamcoalition.org

Testimony to Senate Committee on Public Health and Welfare
Chair, Sen. Vicki Schmidt
Hearing: Monday, March 20, 2017

Position – SUPPORT HB 2044

Chairwoman Schmidt, and Members of the Committee,

The MainStream Coalition supports HB 2044, building a bridge to KanCare for 150,000 Kansans who cannot afford or do not qualify for subsidized healthcare care services.

This legislation will not only improve the health outcomes of those Kansas individuals and families who would receive care, among them thousands of veterans, it will improve the health of Kansas herself. Independent studies have shown that closing the Medicaid gap in Kansas would incur a minimal cost to the state, while creating thousands of jobs, protecting rural communities, and controlling escalating insurance costs that threaten health care for every Kansan.

Federal authorities have weighed in on the flaws in KanCare, among them the lack of coverage for many Kansans. We owe it to our citizens to fix these problems. Federal health care legislation, both as it stands now, and as proposed by current Congressional leadership, continues to offer expansion funding for states.

Now is the time for Kansas to stand up for all of its citizens, to enhance our standing among the states, and to bring healthier outcomes, more jobs, and millions of dollars of health care funding to our citizens.

We urge you to support HB 2044 for passage to the full House.

Thank you,

Brandi Fisher
Executive Director, MainStream Coalition

Board of Directors

Executive Committee

Carol Marinovich
President

Ed Peterson
Vice-President

Joy Ginsburg
Secretary

David Morantz
Treasurer

Sheryl Spalding
Past President

Sherrelyn Smith
MainPAC Chair

Larry Meeker
At Large

Bill Musgrave
At Large

Members

Keith Ashcraft
Joe Colantuono
Mary Estrada
Rev. Aaron Roberts
David Smith
Mitra Templin
Lisa Veglahn
John Vratil
Holly Weatherford
Mark Wiebe

Rev. Bob Meneilly
Chairman Emeritus

Brandi Fisher
Executive Director

About MainStream

Founded in 1993, the MainStream Coalition is an advocacy group for moderate political views regardless of party. Our members do more than vote.