



KANSAS

DEPARTMENT ON AGING
KATHY GREENLEE, SECRETARY

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**Testimony on SB 346
to
The Senate Committee on Ways & Means**

**by Barb Conant
Director of Public Affairs**

Kansas Department on Aging

March 20, 2007

Chairman Umbarger and members of the committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to appear today in support of SB 346. As the Kansas Long-Term Care Bill of Rights, SB 346 codifies the guiding principles under which the Kansas long-term care system is built.

KDOA's mission is to promote the security, dignity and independence of Kansas seniors. These values are central to a quality life for seniors. We can accomplish our mission only if an array of services is available to meet their needs. Our agency priorities support seniors and their families by improving the range of choices and services available by working with partner organizations, other State agencies and individual advocates.

SB 346 sets the philosophical direction for all partners within the aging network and is consistent with KDOA's mission. It also is aligned with KDOA's goals of promoting healthy aging, promoting choices in consumer services and enhancing expectations toward person-directed options within the community and in adult care settings.

Kansas is fortunate to have a strong network of senior advocates and committed providers. SB 346 gives us, collectively, a road map as we build on our tradition of respect and compassion for our senior citizens.

KDOA encourages the support of SB 346 as the Kansas Long-Term Care Bill of Rights.

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