

Bobbie Walthall

From: Melinda <melin@sunflower.com>
Sent: Monday, January 05, 2015 11:13 AM
To: David L. Corliss; Toni Wheeler; Bobbie Walthall
Cc: Mike Amyx; Jeremy Farmer; Michael Dever; Bob Schumm; Terry Riordan
Subject: 2015 Legislative Priority Statement

TO: D. Corliss, T. Wheeler, Bobbie Walthall
CC: M. Amyx, J. Farmer, M. Dever, B. Schumm, T. Riordan

RE: 2015 Legislative Priority Statement

(Bobbie: Could you please add this to the packet material for Tuesday's meeting? Thank you.)

All: Thank you for putting together the list of issues that are so important to residents of Lawrence. After reviewing it, I wanted to suggest one edit and one addition:

Suggested edit re: Affordable Care Act

The City of Lawrence urges the State Legislature to reconsider Kansas' participation in the expanded Medicare program. Our failure to participate is significantly reducing medical care access for Kansans and negatively impacting the ability of Kansas health care providers, including hospitals, to provide care to Kansans.

Please change **Medicare** to **Medicaid**. I reviewed the statement from Wyandotte County Unified Government and would like to suggest that our statement reflect similar numbers and impacts, instead of just referring to the state of Kansas in a general sense. I believe that providing data makes a better impact. This is their statement:

Medicaid Expansion: The Unified Government supports the expansion of Medicaid. The refusal of the state to expand Medicaid puts the burden on local governments to plan health care for the poor. The new insurance market place will target only about 11,000 adults of the approximately 36,000 uninsured in Wyandotte County. This will put pressure on the Wyandotte County Public Health Department and other health care facilities in Wyandotte County to provide care without reimbursement.

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Suggested addition to our statement (this also from WYCO):

City Elections: City elections should remain non-partisan and separate from state and national elections. Cities should continue to determine when their local elections are held.

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Thank you for your consideration of these two issues.

Melinda Henderson