MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR
REGARDING SENATE SUBSTITUTE FOR HOUSE BILL 2002

This budget, passed on the 113th day of the legislative session, unnecessarily increases government spending in several areas and fails to adopt common sense cost saving measures identified by the legislature’s own efficiency study. However, I am signing the budget, despite my concerns about excessive spending, to avoid a break in core functions of government and to provide state workers with well-deserved pay increases."

Pursuant to Article 2, Section 14(b) of the Constitution of the State of Kansas, I hereby return 2017 Senate Substitute for House Bill 2002 with my signature approving the bill, except for the items enumerated below.

Home and Community Based Services Integration Proviso

Section 174 is vetoed in its entirety.

There appear to be two specific reasons for legislative intent regarding insertion of this proviso into the budget. The first is the desire for Legislative approval prior to any integration or consolidation of the Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) waivers. The second is to require Legislative approval prior to any changes being made in the intake, assessment or referral services for the Intellectually and Developmentally Disabled (I/DD) waiver. Mindful of the long-term impact that policy changes have on Kansans served through the HCBS waivers, my administration will not integrate or consolidate the Medicaid HCBS waivers, nor will we make substantive changes to the intake/assessment/referral system for the HCBS I/DD waiver, without meaningful engagement with stakeholders and approval from the Legislature. This proviso is being vetoed because of concerns over the broad nature of the proviso language and its potential to limit changes to non-HCBS programs at the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services (KDADS). The proviso language encompasses all KDADS programs in addition to HCBS services and includes medical services, behavioral health services, transportation, nursing facility and other long-term care services. The proviso could impact any policy change that might be defined as altering a structure, which is the case for most policy changes. For example, a policy change that could provide better mental health services could be viewed as a structural change and limit the state’s ability to implement the change without legislative approval.

Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services

Clubhouse Rehabilitation Services

Section 99-(q) and Section 100-(o) are vetoed in their entirety.
House Bill 2313, which I vetoed, authorized moneys in the Lottery Operating Fund to be used for transfers to the Clubhouse Model Program Fund of the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services. This budget established a Special Revenue Fund to receive the transfer of these funds and directed KDADS to provide Medicaid reimbursement for Clubhouse Rehabilitation Services and to enter into contracts with certified Clubhouse Providers for such services. Since there will not be a transfer made from the Lottery Operating Fund to the Clubhouse Model Program Fund, the State General Fund would incur all costs associated with this new program and this was not included in the budget. I have directed KDADS to work with the Community Mental Health Centers to establish a pilot with Clubhouse Model Program providers in fiscal year 2018 in order to expand the scope of this program.

Dated: June 24, 2017

Sam Brownback  
Governor of Kansas