

House Bill 2725

Concerning Retirement and Pensions relating to KPERS

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION

By: Pam Moses, Kansas Association of District Court
Clerks and Administrators (KADCCA)
Legislative Chair

March 11, 2016

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:

Thank you Chairman Ryckman and committee members for the opportunity to appear before you today on HB 2725 today. I am Pam Moses, Chief Clerk of District Court, Reno County, Kansas and I am here representing the Kansas Association of District Court Clerk's and Administrators (KADCCA) as Chairman of our Legislative Committee.

This bill is an incentive to all state employees hired prior to 1993 who are qualified to retire to do so. I have no idea of the type of abuse that prompted the introductions of this bill, but I can tell you that the people I work with do not make anywhere near the kind of salary that the proponent of the bill describes. Our employees barely get by on their State of Kansas paycheck and many work second and third jobs to support their families.

This bill would affect the final average salary computation for employees hired prior to July 1, 1993, who retire after June 30, 2016, by limiting the amount of vacation and sick leave that can be counted toward the final average salary computation, therefore, affecting their KPERS monthly payout. This bill would encourage any qualified KPERS employee to retire by June 30, 2016. I don't believe our system can take such a large number of employees leaving in such a short time. The knowledge of the job of long term employees is tremendous and it would overwhelm those who are left behind to do their jobs.

The Judicial Branch already allows only 240 hours of vacation to accumulate. This practice prevents overpayment of vacation leave as the proponent has suggested.

For most employees in our area affected by these changes, the suggested changes could potentially make a difference of \$200 per month

from KPERS. I know this may not seem like much, but for those employees this is a huge loss and can make a difference on whether medications or food can be purchased.

We are respectfully requesting that this bill not be passed.

Thank you for the opportunity to appear on HB 2725. I will be happy to stand for any questions.