

**Testimony before House Elections Committee
in Support of House Bill 2082
by Carol Williams, Executive Director
January 26, 2015**

House Bill 2082 is a recommendation made in the Governmental Ethics Commission's FY 2012, FY 2013, and FY 2014 Annual Reports and Recommendations.

In Kansas, a lobbyist is defined as “(1) Any person employed in considerable degree for lobbying; (2) any person formally appointed as the primary representative of an organization or other person to lobby in person on state-owned or leased property; or (3) any person who makes expenditures in an aggregate amount of \$100 or more, exclusive of personal travel and subsistence expenses, in a calendar year for lobbying”.

The Commission has and is recommending the the legislature raise the dollar threshold which requires an individual to register as a lobbyist who makes reportable lobbying expenditures from \$100 to \$1,000. When the Governmental Ethics Laws were enacted in 1975, the \$100 threshold was established. Due to inflation, the Commission believes that after 40 years it is time to raise this dollar threshold.

The Commission urges your support and passage of HB 2082.