



TO: House Committee on Vision 2020
 FROM: Michael Koss, Legal Counsel
 Date: February 15, 2015
 RE: State Water Plan Fund

Thank you for allowing the League of Kansas Municipalities to provide feedback on the state Water Plan Fund. Below is some of the feedback the League received from our members on the issues Chairman Sloan posed for this hearing.

What are the priorities of municipal water systems for the state with regard to the Water Plan Fund?

- Secure additional storage for public drinking water supplies
- Restore storage lost to sediment in water supply reservoirs
- Restore and protect watersheds above water supply reservoirs
- Ensure a reliable water supply during drought
- Maintain or increase funding for the Wichita Aquifer Recharge Project since the Wichita water system provides drinking water to more people and businesses than any other provider in Kansas
- Continue to allocate funds to support the dredging of John Redmond Reservoir
- Support regional and cooperative solutions to water quality challenges that address point and non-point source pollution while balancing municipal cost concerns

What are the timelines for desired actions?

- Complete strategic assessment of each water supply reservoir and set priorities as soon as possible

How will municipal water systems help fund the Water Plan?

- Since Municipal Water Fees and Clean Drinking Water Fees, which are largely paid by public water systems, are already responsible for about ½ of the total revenue for the Water Plan Fund, those fees should not be increased.

League members also feel that there should be a reevaluation of municipal representation on the Kansas Water Authority; revenue sources and distribution for the state water plan fund; and the process for adopting the annual state water plan fund budget.

Thank you for allowing the League to testify on the state Water Plan Fund.