

My name is June Kramer and I am the FACS Teacher and Library Media Specialist for Elk Valley High School USD 283 at Longton, Kansas. Thank you for allowing me to speak to your committee again today about the Working After Retirement proposal that you are considering. I took KPERS retirement six years ago, and have been able to continue to work in my home district that I now have taught in for 43 years. Longton is a very small rural school, and and it is difficult to get new teachers to come to our school.

In my case, it is hard to find FACS (Family and Consumer Science) Teachers, and there probably are not even enough to go around to all of the schools that would like to continue their FACS Program. It is even more difficult to find a librarian, since they now need to have a Master's degree, and our school cannot afford to hire a full-time librarian who would command that salary. It has worked well, however, for our size of school to hire a person who is qualified to fill both positions. This combination would be difficult to replicate, and so I would like to be able to continue to serve my school in this capacity. We have 11 other retirement age teachers out of a total of 19 faculty members, so you can see that we have a veteran faculty, We need this core group of teachers to be able to work full-time as we transition to new programs that are necessary for our school improvement. Our district is one of the unique Kansas districts that this decision will affect the most, so you can see that we are paying very close attention to the outcome of this proposal. We certainly will appreciate your consideration of Elk Valley as you pass legislation about Working After Retirement. Thank you for allowing me to address you again today, and I would be happy to answer your questions.

June Kramer

FACS Teacher

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