

# State of Kansas

## Senate Chamber



CAROLYN MCGINN  
STATE SENATOR, 31ST DISTRICT  
HARVEY AND NORTH SEDGWICK COUNTIES

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## COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

CHAIRMAN  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT

MEMBER  
AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
ETHICS AND TRANSPARENCY  
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RULES AND REGULATIONS

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February 15, 2023

RE: SB172 – Increasing the KPERS lump-sum death benefit from \$4,000 to \$6,000

Honorable Chairman Billinger and Members of the Committee:

This topic came to my attention from a constituent early this year. She brought to my attention that the KPERS death benefit was only \$4,000. This is a one-time final benefit.

I have never been a proponent of COLAs but this benefit amount caught my attention for two reasons. One, the current amount has not changed for 30 years. And two, it is not in line with today's costs for cremations and burials which can average between \$7,000 and \$11,000 respectively.

While raising the dollar amount to \$6,000 does not necessarily cover the entire cost for a funeral, it does help reduce out of pocket costs and financial burdens.

I respectfully ask the committee to consider the adjustment for KPERS death benefit.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Carolyn McGinn". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being particularly prominent.

Senator Carolyn McGinn  
Kansas 31<sup>st</sup> District