

To: House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee

From: Wendi Stark, Legislative Liaison

Date: February 10, 2025

RE: Neutral Testimony on HB 2172 – In-Person

We want to thank Chairman Rahjes and the members of the Committee for affording the League of Kansas Municipalities the opportunity to provide neutral testimony on HB 2172.

Quality and quantity of drinking water is a concern for cities across the state. Our members support a clean and safe public water supply and the protection of public health and aquatic life. As such, our members have directed us, through our Statement of Municipal Policy, to support programs that encourage clean and safe public water.

The League supports the establishment of the water program task force to evaluate Kansas' water program and funding. Over 84% of the population in Kansas lives in cities and as such, we believe the League of Kansas Municipalities (or a representative appointed by the League) should be included as a member of the task force.

The League requests the Committee to consider, before passing legislation out of Committee, adding a member appointed by the League to the Water Program Task Force.