

February 8, 2012

Testimony in support of HB 2630

Chairman Holmes and Committee Members,

The Kansas State Council of Fire Fighters stand before you today in support of HB 2630. This bill would allow public safety retirees to have their healthcare premiums to be paid from their retirement benefit by KPERS. By doing this it will allow the retirees to take advantage of federal law that has been in place for several years that would have the healthcare premiums as a pre-tax expense.

By giving KPERS the authority to deduct these payments for healthcare would save each retiree about \$450.00 per year in federal income tax. As everyone knows there has not been a Cost of Living Adjustment in KPERS since 1998 this savings in federal income taxes would help these retirees in being able to pay for their healthcare.

Again the Kansas State Council of Fire Fighters ask you to support HB 2630 for we feel the public safety retirees not only need this but deserve this to help them with their everyday expenses they have.

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