



Promoting empowerment and Independence.

Madam Chair,

Thank you for the opportunity to speak to you today. My name is Kathy Lobb and I work for the Self Advocate Coalition of Kansas. I am a person with a disability. Today, I am asking you to support HB 2444, the Freedom from Seclusion and Restraint Act. I am asking you to support this bill not only on behalf of Kansans with intellectual and developmental disabilities, but on my behalf as well.

I know what it is like to be restrained and put into seclusion because it happened to me as a child growing up. It was demeaning and dehumanizing. It shouldn't have happened to me. And it should never happen to any other student.

People need to be treated with respect. Teachers need to be trained on proper ways to deal with challenging behaviors. This bill can help ensure that happens.

This bill is a good thing for young Kansans with disabilities. Adopting it is the right thing to do.

Sincerely,

Kathy Lobb

Legislative Liaison

Self Advocate Coalition of Kansas