

House Federal and State Affairs Committee

Testimony on HB 2055 (Written Opposition)

Chairman Siegfried and Members of the Committee

On behalf of the Johnson County Board of County Commissioners, we respectfully submit the following information for consideration in opposition to certain provisions of House Bill 2055.

- November 15, 2012, the Johnson County Board of County Commissioners approved the following legislative priority:
 - “The Legislature will likely consider imposition of state requirements allowing concealed carry permit holders to carry firearms in public facilities if adequate security measures are not present. Johnson County suggests thoughtful consideration of these changes as they will impact local governments. These proposed changes will increase greatly the costs to local government without additional revenue. We believe this to be a matter of local control, and the Legislature should allow local governments to determine whether to allow concealed carry weapons on their grounds and facilities. Additionally, the Legislature should specifically exclude potentially volatile and sensitive locations including board or commission chambers and hearing rooms, mental health facilities, appraisal hearing facilities, and probation offices.”
- House Bill 2055 Section 2 (a) (1) exempts from all provisions of HB 2055 including “adequate security measures” the “capital complex.”
 - KSA 75-4514 identifies the capital complex: “As used in this section, capitol complex means the Docking, Landon, Curtis and Eisenhower state office buildings, memorial hall, the Kansas judicial center and the state capitol.”
 - Only the state capitol and judicial center have adequate security measures.
- House Bill 2055 as written:
 - Does not provide locally elected officials the same discretion the Legislature provides itself.
 - Provides exemption and exclusion of concealed weapons for the Legislature, staff, and State employees, but withholds concealed weapon exclusions for locally elected offices, staff, and employees.
- Most significantly, the public is provided a “no concealed carry exclusion” option in Topeka but not in their home community with their local government.

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