

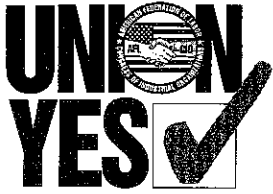
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TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO House Bill 2261 BEFORE HOUSE COMMERCE COMMITTEE

**By Bruce Tunnell
Executive Vice President
Kansas AFL-CIO**

February 16, 2015

Thank you Chairman Hutton and members of the committee I appreciate this opportunity to testify in opposition to House Bill 2261.

Under current law the maximum weekly benefit is calculated every year. House Bill 2261 would change the law so the maximum weekly benefit would only be calculated every three years with no guarantee of an increase or decrease if the average state wage goes up or down.

This legislature has made a number of changes over the past few years to strengthen the integrity of the UI fund all at the expense of the unemployed. The Kansas AFL-CIO would ask you to consider amending House Bill 2261 so benefits will be calculated yearly as they are currently.

Thank you for your time and attention

