

**Written Testimony before House Election
in Support of Senate Bill 28
by Carol Williams, Executive Director
March 9, 2015**

Senate Bill 28 is a recommendation made in the Governmental Ethics Commission's 2012, FY 2013, and FY 2014 Annual Reports and Recommendations. Senate Bill 28 is identical to HB 2082 which passed out of this committee last month.

In Kansas, a lobbyist is defined as “ (1) Any person employed in considerable degree for lobbying; (2) any person formally appointed as the primary representative of an organization or other person to lobby in person on state-owned or leased property; or (3) any person who makes expenditures in an aggregate amount of \$100 or more, exclusive of personal travel and subsistence expenses, in a calendar year for lobbying”.

The Commission is recommending the legislature raise the dollar threshold which requires an individual to register as a lobbyist who makes reportable lobbying expenditures from \$100 to \$1,000. When the Governmental Ethics Laws were enacted in 1974, the \$100 threshold was established. Due to inflation, the Commission believes that after 41 years it is time to raise this dollar threshold.

The Commission urges your support and passage of SB 28.