

TESTIMONY OF THE KANSAS ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES TO THE HOUSE FEDERAL AND STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE ON HB 2440

JANUARY 20, 2016

Madam Chair and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for holding a hearing on this bill. We appreciate the opportunity to offer written testimony in support of HB 2440.

We understand the intent of HB 2440 is to give more flexibility to municipalities who wish to open portions of public buildings to carrying guns, but want to close off other areas. An example is a county courthouse that wants to allow carrying of guns on all floors of the courthouse but the floor containing the courtroom. AGO 2013-14 interprets the current law as a "all or nothing" concept, meaning the county must provide adequate security measures to close off all the building or instead open the entire building to carrying guns. There are counties that would like to minimize the adequate security measures to certain floors or parts of public buildings, and HB 2400 allows for that flexibility.

We ask that you support the legislation.

Melissa Wangemann, General Counsel