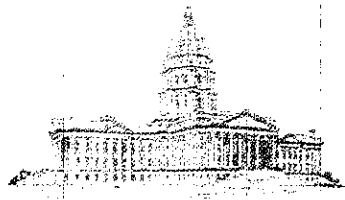


STATE OF KANSAS

PEGGY MAST
REPRESENTATIVE, 76TH DISTRICT
765 ROAD 110
EMPORIA, KANSAS 66801
(620) 343-2465
CAPITOL BLDG.
TOPEKA, KANSAS 66612
(785) 291-3500



TOPEKA

HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES
SPEAKER PRO TEM

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS
VICE-CHAIR: SOCIAL SERVICES BUDGET
VICE-CHAIR: INTERSTATE CORPORATION
MEMBER: CALENDAR AND PRINTING
LEGISLATIVE BUDGET
LEGISLATIVE POST AUDIT
LEGISLATIVE COORDINATING
COUNCIL
JOINT COMMITTEE ON KANSAS SECURITY

Testimony for HCR 5023

Thank you Madam Chair and members of the Committee,

Since the 10th Amendment to the Constitution was passed and put into effect, this country has had at its foundation a system of checks and balances to ensure that the federal government exists as an agent of the state to uphold the authority of the state. Since then, our national understanding of the relationship between state and federal government has dangerously changed—even now, several federal mandates violate this essential amendment and as such, infringe upon the reserved powers of Kansas and its citizens.

HCR 5023 ensures that the federal government and its agencies operate within the confines of the original intent of the Constitution of the United States, whether these entities are in the geographical boundaries of Kansas or those conducting any business whose actions have an effect on the state of Kansas. With this resolution, the State of Kansas claims sovereignty under the 10th Amendment of the Constitution of the United States over all powers not otherwise granted to the federal government by the Constitution of the United States.

When I came into this office, I took an oath to not only uphold the Constitution of the State of Kansas, but also the Constitution of the United States of America, the article that established our

basic rights as Americans. I support this resolution because I believe it is vital we protect the powers given to the states in the 10th Amendment. As Thomas Jefferson said, "The constitutions of most of our States assert, that **all power is inherent in the people.**" We are at a time in history in which this very statement has been challenged. Let us be people who support a government whose power rests with the people.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Peggy Mast". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rep. Peggy Mast
Speaker Pro Tem
76th District, KS House of Representatives