

To: Senate Commerce Committee

From: Eric B. Smith, Legal Counsel

Date: February 10, 2016

RE: Support for SB 365

I want to thank the chair and committee members for providing the League of Kansas Municipalities with the opportunity to testify in support of SB 365.

The Contaminated Property Redevelopment Act that is created by this bill will provide an opportunity for our member cities to take advantage of the federal Brownfields revolving loan and grant program. The League believes this bill will help advance the health and safety of our member communities as well as provide an economic development incentive.

SB 365 appears to be a carefully drafted bill that establishes a fair and balanced approach to distribution of funds to aid in contamination clean-up. There are other programs available for different types of contaminations such as underground storage tanks but this program will provide help in those cases that do not fit into one of the current environmental clean-up programs.

If SB 365 becomes law, the League will work with the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, in communicating the availability of this new program and how it can be used by our member cities. At this time the League is not aware of any specific municipalities that are in need of this program but there is no doubt property exists across the state of Kansas that can benefit.

Based on the above reasons the League of Kansas Municipalities respectfully requests the Committee pass out SB 365 to the full Senate with a recommendation of passage.