

My name is Kenneth Kramer, and I am currently the Board President at Elk Valley USD 283 in Longton, Kansas. Thank you for allowing me to testify on the Working After Retirement proposal. These proposed changes would create a hardship in our district for the faculty that has already retired. It would also make it more difficult for us as a board to hire qualified teachers for future openings. Our small rural district does not always appeal to young college graduates, but is often more appealing to qualified older, retired teachers. If we do not have this pool to draw from as we hire personnel, it could restrict our ability to put the best qualified person in the classroom or perhaps even to be able to fill the position. As a board, it is our goal to give each student the best education possible, and we strive to achieve that goal. Our school is obviously an important part of our community, and it has been very important to me personally, as well. As an Elk Valley graduate, I attended school there for 12 years, and so did all three of our children. I have been privileged to serve on the board for 20 years, so the future of the school is very important to me and my family. In closing, I would ask that you make a decision that would help us to be able to hire the best personnel to provide a quality education for our students. Thank you for this opportunity to address the committee, and I would be happy to answer any questions.

Kenneth Kramer

Elk Valley USD 283

Board President