## STATE OF KANSAS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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3103 OLYMPIC LANE HAYS, KANSAS 67601

## EBER PHELPS 111TH DISTRICT

## **TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 2719**

Chairman Barker and members of the Federal and State Affairs Committee. I am submitting testimony in support of HB 2719.

Firefighters face many dangerous and life-threatening situations on a day to day basis. Due to the challenges they face on our behalf, it is imperative that we, as policy makers, do everything possible to ensure their safety and good health.

A nationwide study of several metro fire departments and thousands of firefighters was done to determine the potential link between firefighting and cancer.

The study was a joint effort between the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, the National Cancer Institute and the University of California, Davis. The results of the study indicated that the fire fighters are a risk of certain cancers due to occupational hazards.

The increased risk of cancer for firefighters is higher than for the general public. I urge your support of HB 2719.

Respectfully,

Eber Phelps

State Representative