STATE OF KANSAS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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EBER PHELPS

111TH DISTRICT

House Federal and State Affairs Committee

PROPONENT TESTIMONY SUPPORTING HB-2720 Representative Eber Phelps, District 111

Dear Chairman Barker and members of House Federal and State Committee,

This testimony is submitted in support of HB-2720 which would address the current structure of the Kansas police and firefighters (KP&F) retirement system.

Currently the retirement benefit cannot exceed 90 percent of a members final salary. HB 2720 would call for the removal of the 90 percent cap on pensions earned under the present KP&F system. Under this current system, senior members of the fire and police departments could continue acquiring benefits after working beyond 36 years where the 90% cap cuts off additional benefits.

We are losing highly trained and skilled police and firefighters to retirement or other careers since they can no longer obtain additional benefits. HB-2720 would allow these men and women to continue serving their communities.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer this testimony in favor of HB-2720.

Respectfully,

Eber Phelps

District 111