



DATE: January 26, 2017

TO: The Honorable Jene Vickery
Members of the House Insurance Committee

FROM: Dan Murray, Lobbyist
Kansas Association of Insurance Agents

RE: Support of HB2067

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony on HB2067, which amends the uniform insurance agents licensing act to allow for the Commissioner of Insurance to obtain a fingerprint from a person applying for a resident insurance agent license. The bill is permissive and does not require that the commissioner mandate the fingerprinting of any new applicant for licensure. The Kansas Association of Insurance Agents (KAIA) is in support of HB2067.

Founded in 1920, the KAIA is dedicated to promoting and advancing the interests of the independent insurance system. Our members are small business owners, located in communities across the state, who provide their clients with a full range of insurance and financial services. The KAIA represents more than 385 independent insurance agencies and branches that employ more than 2,400 licensed agents. As independent agents, our members provide Kansas consumers with choice, customization and advocacy in both their personal and commercial insurance coverage. Our member agencies offer all lines of insurance, including property, casualty, life, health, employee benefit plans and retirement products.

The KAIA and our agent and broker members are guided by an ethos to serve our clients and the public in an honorable way. Our members take their profession seriously and strive to uphold the business values of honesty and integrity. We view this bill as a positive measure that helps to sustain our commitment to retain the trust and respect of clients and the public by preventing bad actors from obtaining an insurance license. As written, we do not believe the bill creates an unfair burden or hurdle for new applicants. We are reasonably assured that the process, if the Commissioner were to require fingerprinting, will be accessible and affordable.

Again, the KAIA supports HB2067. I would be happy to stand for questions at the appropriate time.

