

To: Senate Federal and State Affairs Committee

From: Eric B. Smith, Deputy General Counsel

Date: March 14, 2017

RE: Support for HB 2140

I want to thank Chairman LaTurner and the Committee members for allowing the League of Kansas Municipalities to testify in support of HB 2140.

HB 2140 would allow the state of Kansas to become a member of the Great Plains interstate fire compact. The compact would aid fire departments across the state to efficiently work with neighboring agencies located across state lines. The League supports HB 2140 as an example of cooperation between state governments finding ways to provide fire protection to our citizens in an efficient and cost effective manner. HB 2140 will allow the state of Kansas to request assistance from other compact members during times of critical incidents that strain local fire departments. By allowing other state fire protection agencies to come into our state, local fire departments will have the assistance needed to deal with major fire incidents.

The League of Kansas Municipalities respectfully requests that the Committee pass out HB 2140 favorable for passage.