



**KANSAS**  
ASSOCIATION OF  
**COUNTIES**

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Testimony of the Kansas Association of Counties to the  
House Committee on Local Government  
Proponent for HCR 5007 • March 20, 2019

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of House Concurrent Resolution 5007, which would allow for a popular vote to grant counties Constitutional Home Rule power.

As members of this committee, each of you is from a different and unique district within the state of Kansas. The distinct features and populations of each county within the state requires a uniquely local touch within the county to best govern the county.

Cities in Kansas already have Constitutional Home Rule, enacted in 1961. HCR 5007 is modeled after City Home Rule authority. It is important to remember that Constitutional Home Rule would not exempt counties from uniform laws that apply to all counties throughout the state. It would only allow counties to exercise Home Rule authority where the statutory scheme is either silent, or already non-uniform.

This resolution would put this issue to a vote of the people of Kansas. We urge the committee to work this resolution and ultimately recommend it favorably for passage.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Jay Hall

Kansas Association of Counties

