

Hello, my name is Mark and I have worked at the Norton Correctional Facility for 19+ years, currently in the maintenance department, and I oppose SB 175. I am writing to you as a private Kansas citizen, and do not speak on behalf of my employer or any State of Kansas agency.

I'm sorry I cannot be there in person today to testify as opposing this bill, but I am currently sitting with my wife, who just had knee replacement surgery.

My agency is struggling to be staffed fully and pay a decent living wage. I am struggling to pay my own bills and care for my family. Taking away my ability as a KOSE member to be able to have my dues, and I actively choose to be a member of my Union, withheld is completely against my own choice to be a member - all it does is make my life harder. To say you are helping employees out by doing this is a waste of my tax dollars.

If you'd like to make my life easier, please focus on improve retirement for correctional officers, get state employee insurance in check (over \$900 a month for family insurance, where a City of Hays employee pays only \$200 a month), instead of utilizing time and tax dollars for this political theatre and time wasting. The 2019 Session started 1/14/2019. So far, I'm not impressed with what has been accomplished.

Sincerely,

Mark Conn  
KOSE Member

