

Date: March 6, 2019

To: Chair Carolyn McGinn, Senate Ways and Means

From: Trey Cocking, Deputy Director

Re: Testimony in Support of SB 155-Written

Chairwoman McGinn and Ways and Means Committee members, thank you for the opportunity for the League of Kansas Municipalities on behalf of its member cities to provide testimony in support of SB 155.

SB 155 allows Hillside Cemetery to deannex land within the City of Valley Center and remove it from the taxing district. The facts, as we understand them, are that some citizens in Valley Center are being taxed for two cemetery districts. The passage of SB 155 would end this practice.

In 2017 there was an attempt to pass a similar bill, but the City of Sedgwick, where the cemetery is located, objected at that time. We have spoken to staff with the City of Sedgwick and they are not objecting to SB 155, and the City of Valley Center, who requested this bill, is supportive of SB 155. Based on these reasons the League supports SB 155 and requests the Committee pass SB 155 out favorably to the full Senate for approval.