

To: Senate Federal and State Affairs

From: John Goodyear, General Counsel

Date: March 29, 2022

RE: Opponent Testimony on HB 2717 – Written Only Testimony

I want to thank Chairman Olson and the members of the Committee for affording the League of Kansas Municipalities the opportunity to provide testimony in opposition to HB 2717.

The League is opposed to this bill only to the extent that it limits the exercise of local control. The protection and preservation of Home Rule is always the top priority of our membership, and it is the first thing we consider as we review legislation. HB 2717 will place limitations on the development and use of municipal identification cards. Further the bill, if read as broadly as possible, could have a freezing effect on the adoption of policies aimed at welcoming all people to the community, even if that policy otherwise encourages cooperation with federal officials and immigration efforts.

City councils and commissions are the governing bodies that are closest to the people and best equipped to respond to the wants and needs of the community in a timely manner. The limits imposed by this bill will hinder the ability of cities to act. For that reason, the League opposes the passage of HB 2717.