

Testimony:

As a resident of Fairway, Kansas I would be saddened if ownership and management of the state historic landmark site known as the Shawnee Indian Mission were to be transferred out-of-state as HB 2208 proposes. This site is currently very well maintained and open to everyone. The grounds are well-kept and utilized for many inclusive, educational programs. I have personally volunteered there by helping maintain the native plant garden as well as through participation in the fall festival that has been held for as long as I can remember.

I believe the Shawnee Indian Mission deserves much better treatment than to have its ownership transferred and its future left in question as would happen if HB 2208 passed. I've seen no documented good reason for this to happen now. Only with extreme care and concern for the property's welfare and with written promise to be perpetually open to the public should such a transfer ever be done and then only to an owner with a well-established track record for good oversight which this one-page bill does not spell out, even less guarantee.