

**TESTIMONY OR PRESENTATION INFORMATION
FOR
LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE**

Please send all testimony or presentations in pdf format 24 hours in advance of the scheduled meeting to Debra.Heideman@house.ks.gov

Name of Conferee/Presenter Jim Francis - Fire Services Administrator

Agency represented Johnson County, Kansas

Bill # 2323

Proponent

Opponent

Neutral

Will your testimony be given:

Oral In Person

Oral Via WebEx

Written Only

If you are presenting testimony via WebEx, you will need to be sent an invitation to join the meeting. Please provide your email address.

Email address _____

If you are giving a presentation, please complete the following:

Name of your presentation _____

Do you need Audio/Video Equipment for your presentation? Please list.

Thank you,

Debra Heideman, Local Government

Committee Assistant

Room 149-S, 785-296-7681

February 15, 2023

Representative Emil Bergquist
Chairman, House Committee on Local Government
Kansas State Capitol
300 SW 10th Street, Room 281-N
Topeka, Kansas 66612

**Testimony by Jim Francis, Fire Services Administrator, to the House Committee on
Local Government in opposition of House Bill 2323**

Honorable Representative Bergquist:

My name is James B. Francis. I am the Fire Services Administrator for Johnson County, Kansas. One of my duties is representing Johnson County Fire District No. 2 (JCFD2) on all business matters. I previously served as the Fire Chief for JCFD2 for over 20 years. I have made the trip to Topeka to provide testimony on multiple other fire district detachment bills over the past 20 years. JCFD2 is located immediately south of Olathe and Overland Park. A large portion of the City of Spring Hill is also located within the boundaries of JCFD2.

Approximately one week ago, Johnson County was made aware of HB2323. Shortly after learning of HB2323, conversations about the potential negative impact this bill would have on our district began to occur.

The Fire Chief of Johnson County Fire District No. 1 (FD1) and the Fire Chief of Northwest Consolidated Fire District (NWCFD) have both been made aware of this proposed legislation and have concerns regarding this proposed legislation. JCFD2, FD1, and NWCFD have had little time to prepare a formal response to this proposed legislation and given the very short notice of the upcoming hearing the fire districts would like an additional opportunity to discuss their concerns.

In summary, the three fire districts in Johnson County that cover all unincorporated areas of Johnson County have all expressed concerns with the proposed legislation. All three districts are respectfully requesting additional time and opportunities to discuss this proposed legislation and to express our concerns about HB2323.

Sincerely,

James B. Francis
Fire Services Administrator
Johnson County, Kansas

cc: Joe Connor, Johnson County Asst. County Manager