



Written Testimony for HB 2685:

OUR VISION IS
to create a humane
community for all
companion animals.

Submitted by:

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I am writing to submit proponent testimony for HB 2685.

This bill, if passed, would extend sales tax relief to non-profit organizations throughout the State of Kansas. This would greatly improve the spending power of nonprofit organizations and allow for more money to go directly toward achieving our missions.

Kansas Humane Society is the largest nonprofit, high-volume, animal shelter in the State of Kansas. Kansas Humane Society houses the largest shelter medicine program in the state offering both shelter pets and community animals access to low-cost spay/neuter surgeries, low-cost end of life services, and in partnership with the City of Wichita municipal shelter, KHS helps find adoptive homes or rescue placements for strays. Our mission is **Kansas Humane Society is a community resource for pets & people, dedicated to enhancing the welfare of all companion animals.**

Kansas Humane Society purchases medications, supplies, and many other items related to animal welfare regularly and this sales tax exemption would save us over \$100,000 annually. With those additional funds from tax savings available we would be able to impact hundreds more lives and lower the likelihood that we remain in the current national capacity crisis that is hitting animal welfare organizations all throughout the United States. Just two cats and their litter of kittens can produce 80,399,780 kittens in a ten-year period (dog reproduction rates are slower, but still could result in 2,097,152 more animals in the same period of time). With this savings KHS could, at a minimum, provide an additional 1,000 spay/neuter surgeries to the community – which in turn lowers the rate of strays from accidental breeding – relieving the drain public resources.

This is just one example of how the passage of HB 2685 would positively impact lives in Kansas. As inflation grows year over year, having this savings means measurable positive change for years to come – change that will positively impact both local and state entities that deal with stray, abused/neglected, or otherwise unwanted animals. Kansas Humane Society is not the only organization that would benefit from HB 2685, but we are grateful to have this opportunity to submit testimony alongside other needed nonprofit service organizations throughout the state.

Thank you for your consideration.

Aaron Walker
President & Chief Executive Officer
Kansas Humane Society of Wichita, KS

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