



Kansas Children's Service League

Stronger families start here.

**House Committee on Taxation
HB 2687
Proponent Written Testimony
February 20, 2024**

Thank you, Chair Smith, Vice Chair Bergkamp, Ranking Minority Member Sawyer and Committee Members for the opportunity to provide written testimony in support of HB 2687. Kansas Children's Service League (KCSL) is a statewide private, non-profit, 501(c)3 serving children and their families. We are the Kansas Chapter for Prevent Child Abuse America. KCSL works to create, repair and restore healthy parent-child relationships which are the foundation of a strong family.

There is over 30 years of research now about the impact of childhood adversity. **Childhood adversity includes abuse and neglect as well as other household dysfunctions.** The childhood trauma stemming from adversity can have a profound impact on social connections, school readiness, and an increased likelihood of developing negative coping mechanisms which have an impact on our larger society in terms of health-related costs, worker productivity costs, and criminal justice costs as these children become adults. A contributing factor to child abuse or neglect is financial stress in a household.

Providing all Kansas families with children, a child tax credit will help ease some of the financial stress for families. While it does not resolve all financial stress for some families, it will help alleviate the costs associated with raising children, such as childcare, extracurricular activities, and in dire situations basic needs like food and clothing.

KCSL supports HB 2687.

Thank you for your consideration.

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