

To: House Committee on Water

From: Wendi Stark, Legislative Liaison

Date: March 7, 2024

RE: Proponent Testimony on SB 331 – Written Testimony

We want to thank Chairman Minnix and the members of the Committee for affording the League of Kansas Municipalities the opportunity to provide testimony in support of SB 331.

Quality and quantity of drinking water is a concern for cities across the state. Our members support a clean and safe public water supply and the protection of public health and aquatic life. As such, our members have directed us, through our Statement of Municipal Policy, to support programs that encourage clean and safe public water.

SB 331 would update the statutory definition of lead-free and removes the exception for leaded joints from public water supply system laws in order to comply with current Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) regulations.

Compliance with federal and state regulations situates the state of Kansas and public water supply systems throughout the state in a better position to obtain federal funding and grants to access and supply clean and safe public water.

The League supports SB 331 and asks this Committee to recommend it favorably for passage.