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January 22, 2024

To: Chairman Thompson and Members of the Senate Committee on Federal and State Affairs

Re: Testimony in Opposition to HB 2446

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Chairman Thompson and Committee Members, thank-you for the opportunity to provide written testimony in opposition to HB 2446 on behalf of the City of Junction City. I understand that this bill as presently written would ban municipalities from setting local policies regarding plastic bags and other disposable food containers.

Simply this is local decision. Each City within the State should be able to use the authority under the Constitutional Home Rule Amendment to make these decisions. As a 35-year City Manager in this State and a Past President of the League of Kansas Municipalities, this topic is one for a local level decision. It certainly does not rise to the level State control. At the present time, I don't see this as an issue here in Junction City and there have been no discussions on the matter, Yet, each City should be able to make their own choice.

I encourage you to not move this bill forward and threaten the Home Rule Authority of Kansas cities.

Sincerely,

Allen Dinkel City Manager