

January 23rd, 2024

Bill number: HB2446

Opponent

Chairman Thompson and members of the Committee:

My name is Ginny McBride, and I am asking that you please vote against HB2446 at this pivotal point in time.

I moved across the state line from Missouri in 2017, and actually just became a Kansas citizen, a Lawrence citizen, late last week. I love the people here, I love the ideals, and I want the county to follow through on banning single use plastics. This push forward is remarkable for a place surrounded by so many different ideals, and is the reason I decided to call this place home.

I can't really speak from a scientific or lawful lens, but I can say, the future I want to maybe have children in is one that is focused on sustainability and community; pushing people to look at what they have, and how to navigate our changing world where plastic is already over abundant.

For the trouble and inconvenience this will most definitely cause during the transition, the county has found ways to show up for people and make it work. I was amazed during the first round of COVID-19 vaccines how well Lawrence was organized and how safe everyone seemed to feel while getting a drive-through needle in the arm. It was a moment that cemented how a community should work together in my mind.

Lawrence and Douglas County worked hard to make it through those dark years, and even though the pandemic is, comparably, a short-term emergency, the community is still facing the long-term toxin of single-use plastics.

Please don't let this opportunity to create change pass by, please vote against HB2446.

I appreciate your time and consideration,
Ginny McBride