



CITY OF TOPEKA

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To: Senate Committee on Senate Federal and State Affairs
From: City of Topeka, submitted by Amanda Stanley, City Attorney
Date: January 23, 2024
Re: HB 2446- Written Opposition Testimony

Thank you Chairman Thompson for allowing the City of Topeka to submit written opposition testimony to HB 2446 which would preempt from adopting or enforcing an ordinance that restricts, taxes, imposes a charge or fee upon, prohibits or otherwise regulates the use, disposition or sale of plastic straws or containers.

The City of Topeka currently has no ongoing discussions regarding this topic. If the legislature passed this bill, it would have no immediate impact. That is the very reason this legislation is not needed. This is a local issue that is best handled at the local level. The public has lots of opinions on this topic. There are the die-hard straw people, the sustainability focused, the business community, recyclers, lovers of takeout, and many more. All of these various individuals deserve to debate the topic and engage in the democratic process if, and when, the topic ever arises in their communities. That is the beauty of home rule. Please do not shortchange their future right to decide the best course of action when the topic is actually relevant in their community.

Thank you for your consideration.

We would ask that the committee not pass this bill to the full Senate.