



Date: March 9, 2023

To: Chairman Sean Tarwater and Committee on Commerce, Labor and Economic Development members

From: Kendal Francis, City Manager, Hutchinson, Kansas

Subject: Testimony in Opposition to HB2447

Dear Chairman Tarwater:

I am writing to strongly oppose HB2447.

HB2447 is a direct attack on cities' constitutional right to Home Rule! The bill would prevent cities from prohibiting the sale of any product or any service that is permitted under state law. The law would turn the Home Rule Amendment on its head, prohibiting cities from regulating any products and services allowed by state law. This legislation will have tremendous consequences for local business regulations and the exercise of police power to protect the public's health, safety, and welfare.

Since 1961, the people of Kansas have decided that they primarily prefer their local governments, rather than the state, making decisions for their communities. The basic power granted to cities by the Home Rule amendment are included in these few words: "Cities are hereby empowered to determine their local affairs and government."

Home Rule recognizes the need for local people to solve local problems locally, allowing them to preserve the community's unique identity.

Therefore, I respectfully urge you to oppose HB2447.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kendal Francis", is written over the typed name. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Kendal Francis  
City Manager