



Little
Government
Relations

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March 13th, 2023

Testimony in Opposition to House Bill 2447 House Commerce Committee

Chairman Tarwater and Members of the House Commerce Committee:

The Cities of Mission, Merriam, Prairie Village, and Westwood Hills oppose HB 2447. We appreciate the opportunity to provide testimony on this bill that effectively eliminates cities' home rule authority. In the interest of our community and the citizens that elected our governing body and as the steward of their tax revenue, our number one priority is protecting our home rule authority and we ask you to not advance HB 2447.

This bill would preempt cities from considering or taking any action regarding legal products or services without regard for locally elected officials' responsibility to consider the will of their constituents either in support of or opposition to an issue that may be of local significance. Our duty to our citizens is not arbitrary or flexible depending on any issues; it's rooted in Article 12 Section 5 of the Kansas Constitution.

We request the committee oppose HB 2447 in the interest of preserving cities' home rule authority and trusting local governments to make the best decisions for their local communities and residents. Thank you for your consideration and we welcome any questions or further discussion you may have on this matter.

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