

House Education Committee February 8, 2024 HB 2613

Kansas Association of Counties Proponent Testimony – Written Only

Chairman Thomas and members of the Committee:

Thank you for allowing the Kansas Association of Counties to offer proponent testimony on HB 2613, which would provide funding for drug abuse resistance education (D.A.R.E.) and provide education about fentanyl and other opioid drugs.

The Kansas Association of Counties supports programs and funding with a preventative focus to protect Kansas youth and avoid having them become involved with drug abuse at all. Educating youth on the dangers of fentanyl and other opioids could help prevent tragedies in Kansas. KAC supports utilizing the existing D.A.R.E. program to provide this education to Kansas students in public elementary and secondary schools.

KAC would support the passage of HB 2613. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Jay Hall Deputy Director and General Counsel Kansas Association of Counties <u>hall@kansascounties.org</u> (785)272-2585