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Bill number: HB2412

Proponent
Tammy Bartels
Speaking for self

Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony on House Bill 2412.

While this is a simple bill in wording, the impact it could have on the safety of Kansas citizens could be huge. As a Constitutional Carry state, our citizens can carry a firearm concealed for personal protection while within the boundaries of our state. However, should they need to travel to another state for business or pleasure, they lose that right unless they have a conceal carry permit (and the state has reciprocity of course).

Ignoring the costs associated with getting a firearm in the first place, the costs associated with getting your conceal carry permit can be prohibitive for some of our most vulnerable citizens. The average cost for the required concealed carry safety class is between \$60 to \$100 in most areas. Plus, ammunition and any travel expenses. If the individual seeking their permit normally works weekends, then they are also having to take a day off work as most of the classes take place on a Saturday because of the length.

This can get to be a costly endeavor when you add in the fingerprint fee and the permit fee itself. Individuals who are on limited incomes or struggling with the current economy may not be able to afford all these fees, meaning they may choose to forgo getting their permit.

One complaint we often hear about Constitutional Carry is that there is no training required. On the other hand, there is a required 8-hours of training to get your conceal carry permit. For that reason alone, it makes good sense for everyone to support steps that remove barriers to individuals getting their permits, and removing or reducing the fees associated with doing so is a great place to start.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Tammy Bartels