



Kansas Department of Insurance
Commissioner Vicki Schmidt

Proponent Testimony for SB 398 – Flexibility to Lower Fees at the Insurance Department

March 4, 2024

Chairman Sutton and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Senate Bill 398.

Senate Bill 398 amends multiple statutes that govern fees and fines within Chapter 40 of Kansas Statutes. The amounts for these fees and fines are established in current law and pertain to applications, filings, licensure, licensure renewals, certificates of authority, etc.

Senate Bill 398 grants the Commissioner the flexibility to lower more than 100 statutorily set fees and fines, in an amount not to exceed what is currently in statute. The Commissioner will publish these fees and fines for the next year in the Kansas Register so that the regulated entities have time to plan their budgets for the next calendar year.

The bill is modeled after 2023 House Bill 2090, which granted the Kansas Insurance Commissioner the flexibility to lower licensure fees for insurance agents and insurance agencies in Kansas. Since implementation and subsequent fee reductions by the Commissioner, that legislation is anticipated to save industry \$1.2 million annually.

Senate Bill 398 passed the Senate Committee of the Whole with a vote of 40-0.

Eric Turek
Director of Government and Public Affairs