



*Sedgwick County...
working for you*

Register of Deeds

Tonya Buckingham

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Mr. Chairman and honorable members of the committee.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony in support of HB 2376 prohibiting the recording of unlawful restrictive covenants.

I especially want to thank representative, Patrick Penn, who reached out to myself and the Kansas Register of Deeds Association to get our input on drafting this bill, since this directly affects our offices.

As Sedgwick County's Register of Deeds, it is my responsibility to maintain and preserve land records. Unfortunately, some of our recorded documents throughout history show forms of discrimination. That is unacceptable. Although this language is unenforceable, it still shows up in our records. HP 2376, gives the power back to the owner of the real estate and the ability to release the restriction on their own accord. It's important to provide the homeowner a mechanism to release the restriction written on those documents without going through some type of political process, which could prove to timely.

Therefore, we ask that the Committee report HB 2376 favorable for passage.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tonya Buckingham".

Tonya Buckingham, Sedgwick County Register of Deeds
Enclosure: - 1 Racially Restrictive Covenant