

Proponent Testimony for HB 2715 – Flexibility to Lower Fees at the Insurance Department

March 7, 2024

Chairman Longbine and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill 2715.

House Bill 2715 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.

House Bill 2715 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.

House Bill 2715 passed the House Committee of the Whole with a vote of 119-0.

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