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Testimony to the Senate Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee In Support of HB2711

March 13, 2024

Chairman Longbine and Committee Members:

Our associations support HB2711. The bill will be of great assistance in filling vacancies in our agencies suffering significant staff shortages. About 2/3 of our agencies, with about 1/3 of the law enforcement officers in Kansas are not in KP&F members but are members of local KPERS. 100% of our support personnel, dispatchers, and non-sworn jail staff are local KPERS.

These caps have not been adjusted for inflation for some time, reducing the number of hours employees work before reaching the cap. This has an impact on many of our agencies in rural and urban areas. The ability to hire a retired person to work part time in certain positions can bring welcome relief to the staff shortages, reducing stress levels on employees and reducing overtime.

Passage of this bill will be very helpful to many of our agencies.

Thank you for your consideration.

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