



Testimony on HB 2545
Before the House Pensions and Benefits Committee
By Kerri Spielman
February 13, 2012

Thank you, Chairman Holmes and members of the committee, for the opportunity to offer written testimony on HB 2545. My name is Kerri Spielman and I represent the Kansas Association of Insurance Agents. KAIA has approximately 550 member agencies and branches throughout the state employing over 3,000 people. Our members are independent, small business owners who are free to represent many different insurance companies. Because they are not a company employee, independent agents represent the consumer's interests, providing them with a choice and the ability to customize to fit their individual needs.

The Kansas Association of Insurance Agents (KAIA) offers this written testimony in support of the amendment offered by Security Benefit Life Insurance Company that would allow eligible employees the option of using an independent local financial advisor as an option in 403b plans.

The KAIA supports free market competition. The amendment offered by Security Benefit would offer more competition at the same time that it offers individual, customized financial advice. Public employees deserve the opportunity to access experienced financial advisors who can help guide them in their choices, as well as help them take advantage of the opportunities that exist to increase their retirement savings.

In summary, the amendment offered by Security Benefit would offer choice and customization to public employees. It will give them access to independent, financial advisors who serve the consumer first. It will give them the opportunity to take charge of their retirement savings and structure it to fit their individual needs.

Thank you, again, for the opportunity to offer this written testimony. We encourage the committee to support of the amendment offered by Security Benefit Life Insurance Company for the benefit of Kansas public employees.

