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Written Proponent Testimony on HB 2340, Increasing the minimum age to 21 to purchase or possess cigarettes and tobacco products. In House Committee on Federal and State Affairs February 22, 2021

Mr. Chair and Members of the Committee,

KASB appears today as a proponent of HB 2340. The United School Administrators of Kansas join us on this testimony.

The KASB Delegate Assembly adopted a legislative position in January 2021 which includes support for addressing student mental and physical health issues, including developing comprehensive, evidence-based, locally focused strategies in areas such vaping.

While most Kansas school districts have taken action to ban the use of these devices in schools, the ability to regulate the general population during school sponsored events or activities is more complicated because it is not prohibited in current statute.

KASB believes that adopting HB 2340 to include "electronic cigarette" in the language of the Kansas clean indoor air act would help to strengthen the policies of school districts across the state and support them in the enforcement of those policies.

We do not have specific policy direction from our members on the purchase age for cigarettes and thus cannot address that issue.

Thank you for your consideration.