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Chief Executive Officer Tarah Remington Brown House Federal and State Affairs Committee Written Testimony: HB 2340 (support) By Dr. Chad Johanning, KAFP President February 22, 2021

On behalf of the Kansas Academy of Family Physicians (KAFP) and our nearly 2,000 members across the state of Kansas, we thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in support of HB 2340. Raising the age for purchase and possession of tobacco and vaping products, from 18- to 21-years of age, represents a significant step toward decreasing the number of young people becoming addicted to these products.

While this bill reflects great strides towards ending tobacco use in the State of Kansas and offers a robust T21 policy, the KAFP recognizes the best way to protect youth from getting started using ecigarettes, cigarettes or other tobacco products is to ban all flavors for all products. We believe the bill would be significantly strengthened if it provided a ban on flavors, especially for vaping products.

Nonetheless, we believe HB 2340 will help to reduce the number of adolescents and young adults who start smoking, therefore impacting smoking-related disease and death, and will have a significant impact on patient care outcomes. Respectfully, the KAFP urges your support of HB 2340.