

1/31/22

Senate Bill 360 / Enacting the Kansas assistance animals in housing act.

Proponent

Written and Oral In Person Testimony

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President Apartment Association of Kansas City; Regional Property Manager at Cushman & Wakefield

I am currently the President of the Apartment Association of Kansas City as well as Regional Property Manager for Cushman & Wakefield. I have over 20 years of experience in the apartment industry and fully support this bill and the need for this law in Kansas.

This bill protects housing providers, tenants, and those with disabilities. Current Kansas code relates to places of public accommodation with no mention of housing. It needs too!

Senate Bill 360 outlines protocols for animal assistance in housing in Kansas.

The bill helps to protect housing providers to ensure service animals are granted to those who in fact need them verses those that are playing the system. Cushman & Wakefield properties have a 2 pet per apartment minimum, and we have seen an uptick in prospective residents wanting to bring 3 and 4 pets into the home. When we reject the additional pets to be consistent with our policies, they in turn come back with support animal documentation stating they now have a need for a service animal.

These changes to Kansas code would help lessen the negative effects of abuse. It would also make it easier for those who really need animal assistance.

Please vote for Senate Bill 360. Thank you.

Kimberly Coates, CAM, CAPS, LEAD Regional Property Manager