

To: House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee

From: Wendi Stark, Research Associate

Date: February 13, 2023

RE: Proponent Testimony on HB 2047 – Written Testimony

We want to thank Chairman Rahjes and the members of the Committee for affording the League of Kansas Municipalities the opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB 2047.

Quality and quantity of drinking water is a concern for cities across the state. Our members support a clean and safe public water supply and the protection of public health and aquatic life. As such, our members have directed us, through our Statement of Municipal Policy, to support programs that encourage access to water.

HB 2047 provides additional funding streams for water infrastructure across the state by increasing the amortization period from 20 to 30 years for the Kansas water pollution control revolving loan fund. While increasing the amortization period could increase the amount of interest a local government pays over the amortization period; however, the increasing the timeframe to repay a revolving fund loan could provide additional funding for cities to use to improve additional infrastructure concerns.

Increasing the amortization period from 20 to 30 years would be available to any city willing and able to utilize it. This tool could be extremely valuable for those cities who need the most assistance.

The League supports HB 2047 and asks this Committee to recommend it favorably for passage.