Oral in-person testimony

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Chairman Carpenter and Members of the Committee,

HB 2803 has one objective, protecting responsible gun owners from the overreach of wholly unconstitutional exercises of authority regarding rules and regulations being presented as law through an unelected, taxpayer funded bureaucracy, and overreaching executive order, without having gone through the legislative process outlined and enshrined within the United States Constitution.

As state legislators we are tasked with responsibilities. One of which is upholding the constitution of the United States of America, as well as the Kansas Constitution. Both documents we are to uphold clearly state, having been proven repeatedly by the Supreme Court of the United States of America, that it is our duty to protect and honor the right of the people to keep and bear arms. The only time this right is restricted is if an individual proves themselves to be mentally unfit as determined by medical professionals or has been convicted of a crime which qualifies them to lose free access to their rights.

Innocent Kansas gun owners, our constituents, are relying on us to keep our oath. They are being villainized with each enforcement of an unconstitutional law or rule perceived as law. They are being mocked and demonized by politicians, organizations, corporations, and every demanding person who believes their feelings trump inherent individual rights.

Elected Kansas Sheriffs are the frontline of enforcement and have an obligation to uphold the same constitutions as we have taken our oath to honor. As such it is expected of them to protect the innocent and we refuse to put them into a position to assist federal officers in the enforcement of unconstitutional overreach aimed at their neighbors and constituents. If the Federal level wants to push their agenda upon innocent, responsible, gun owning constituents they must do so without the use of Kansas taxpayer money, employees, and services.

This bill only applies to law-abiding citizens, as such criminals will continue to be held accountable for the crimes they commit. In those cases, Kansas will continue to champion and assist in the enforcement of constitutional laws.

Your vote on HB 2803 is yet another opportunity to honor the oath which we all took on January 9th, 2023. It is your opportunity to proudly and publicly show respect for your law-abiding, responsibly armed, constituents. How you vote on this bill will tell everyone whether you respect the rights of your responsibly armed constituents and the oath you swore to protect their rights.

Thank you for your time.

In service and liberty,

Rebecca Schmoe

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