

STATE OF KANSAS



TOPEKA

SENATE CHAMBER

MARCI FRANCISCO  
SENATOR, 2ND DISTRICT

DURING SESSION  
STATE CAPITOL -- 134-E  
TOPEKA, KANSAS 66612  
(785) 296-7364  
HOT LINE 1-800-432-3924  
TTY 1-785-296-8430  
FAX: 785-368-6365

marci.francisco@senate.ks.gov

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS  
RANKING MINORITY MEMBER  
AGRICULTURE  
NATURAL RESOURCES  
MEMBER  
UTILITIES  
WAYS & MEANS  
MEMBER, JOINT COMMITTEE  
ARTS AND CULTURAL RESOURCES  
ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY  
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
LEGISLATIVE EDUCATIONAL PLANNING  
STATE BUILDING CONSTRUCTION

House Committee on Judiciary  
HB 2260  
February 14, 2012

Chairman and Members of the Committee:

I am Senator Marci Francisco. I testified in opposition to HB 2260 last year and am here today to again express my concerns.

From 1979 to 1983, I had the honor of serving on the Lawrence City Commission. In that role, I was involved with hearings regarding our community's human relations ordinance. It was, and remains, important to our community that our citizens are involved in crafting ordinances that reflect the values of our community and respond to experiences of our citizens.

I again want to express my objection to section 1(b)(2) defining "Compelling governmental interest" to exclude prohibition of a practice or policy of discrimination against individuals in employment relations, in access to free and public accommodations or in housing, except as set forth in K.S.A. 44-1001 et seq., and amendments thereto, and the laws and constitution of the United States. If a community is concerned that discrimination exists, that community should have some flexibility in addressing those concerns. Limiting opportunities to address discrimination only as identified in K.S.A. 44-1001 et seq. may be, in effect, discriminatory.

I do not believe that our Kansas statutes should be used to condone discrimination on the basis of an individual exercising their freedom of religion. I would hope that remove Section 1(b)(2) in the bill.

Thank you for your consideration, and for all your good work on behalf of the great state of Kansas.

*Marci Francisco*  
Senator Marci Francisco