

AIA Kansas A Chapter of the American Institute of Architects

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TO:	Representative Klebb and Members of the House Commerce, Labor and Economic Development Committee
FROM:	Trudy Aron, Executive Director
RE:	Support of HB 2246

Good afternoon Chair Klebb and members of the Committee. Thank you for allowing the American Institute of Architects to provide this testimony in support of HB 2246.

AIA Kansas is a statewide association of architects and intern architects. Most of our 680 members work in over 100 private practice architectural firms designing a variety of project types for both public and private clients. Our members are designing tomorrow's buildings today, aiming to meet the "triple bottom line" by designing buildings that are affordable, protect the health and safety of the building occupants, and that respect our environment.

HB 2246 gives those licensed by the Kansas State Board of Technical Professions (Board) – architects, engineers, landscape architects, and land surveyors– certain legal protection from documents generated by peer review. Peer review is a process of evaluating the services rendered by those licensed by the Board to improve the quality of their services. Like the peer review for those in the healing arts, this peer review provides firms with information helpful in developing better processes, upgrading education and training, and provides opportunities to enhance the services provided to the public.

This bill does not protect the information derived by the peer review from any disciplinary action by the Board of Technical Professions. Further, the Board is proposing amendments to the bill that AIA Kansas supports.

Thank you for your time. I'll stand for questions.