



Written Only Neutral Testimony on HB 2741

Kansas State Firefighters Association

Kevin Flory, President

House Committee on Commerce, Labor and Economic Development

February 19, 2018

Good afternoon Chairman Mason and fellow committee members. My name is Kevin Flory, and I am the President of the Kansas State Firefighters Association. Our association represents the approximately 16,000 members of the Kansas Fire Service, both paid and volunteer, firefighter and chief officer.

I am writing today to give neutral input on HB 2741. This bill will allow for the regulation of the industry that installs fire sprinklers in all settings. KSFFA is in favor of oversight to ensure that the consumer gets what they are paying for at both the commercial and residential level. However, there should be some leeway for the local community to determine what the level of oversight is without imposing too many costs on the installer of those systems.

KSFFA is fully supportive of the move to allow sprinklers in the residential setting, and we are grateful to the legislative body for looking to consider this measure. The end result that the KSFFA supports is the ability of the local governing body determine the safety level they want in their community for their citizens and firefighters. The sprinkler industry provides such a safety piece. However, let there be that same local control to determine who can or cannot install such systems.

Please feel free to contact any of our board members if you would have questions of the fire service on this issue. As always, your support is appreciated by the fire service.