



**Written Only Testimony to the Senate Federal and State Affairs Committee**

**Supporting HB 2140**

**Kevin L. Flory**

**Kansas State Firefighters Association**

**Tuesday, March 14, 2017**

Good morning Chairman LaTurner, 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 ask you to support HB 2140 on the Interstate Fire Compact. This bill would allow our Kansas Firefighters to have access to needed resources in times of major fires that occur within our state. As exhibited by last year's Anderson Creek Fire, the need does exist at times for specialty resources that just are not readily available within our state. Resources were already on the fire in Oklahoma, but could not be utilized in our state due to no agreement being in place. This Compact will help to enhance the ability of the Kansas Forest Service to request resources into our state from neighboring jurisdictions. Thankfully, these resources are not needed often, but when they are, it is extremely helpful to have the agreements in place to let it happen prior to the incident. On behalf of the Kansas Fire Service, we thank you for your attention to this issue.

Kevin L. Flory

President, KSFFA