



March 21, 2017

Senator Wilborn and Members of the Committee:

The Kansas Animal Control Association sends this written testimony on behalf of animal control facilities across the state in support of HB 2302. Currently, municipal shelters are not allowed to use the bonding law under the state statute. Only non-profit shelters can do this. This leads to the following issues for municipal shelters:

- There is often a large and unnecessary financial cost for Kansas agencies that seize and care for animals in cruelty cases.
- Seized animals must often be held for months or years while a cruelty case is prosecuted at significant cost to taxpayers and the animals.
- It is unfair for Kansas agencies and counties to have to pay the large cost of caring for abused animals when it is the abuser who is legally responsible.

We work with animal control agencies across the state and support this change in the animal cruelty statute that would allow municipal shelters, law enforcement and prosecutors to require pre-payment for an animals stay at their shelter or boarding facility, saving municipalities thousands of dollars each year.

Thank you for your consideration of this important bill.

Sincerely,
Carla Lewis
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