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VIRGIL WEIGEL
56TH DISTRICT

Testimony in Support of House Bill 2100
Providing for a cost-of-living adjustment for certain retirees
Of the Kansas Public Employment Retirement System
Presented to the House Committee on Financial Institutions and Pensions
by Virgil Weigel, Representative – 56th District

February 11, 2019

Chairman Jim Kelly and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify before you today. I appear today in support of HB 2100. My remarks will be brief.

This Bill will provide a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for certain retirees. The Legislature has considered a COLA increase for KPERS retirees several times, including the 2017-2018 session. The last time KPERS beneficiaries received a COLA increase was in 1998. KPERS retiree benefits were increased by 3.0 percent. That was over 20 years ago.

I am supporting this Bill simply because it is the right thing to do for KPERS retirees. The CPI (Consumer Price Index) has far exceeded the three percent increase the Bill would provide.

I ask that you consider this Bill and pass out HB 2100 favorably. In the interest of transparency, I am a KPERS retiree, and have been since 2011 when I retired from the State of Kansas.

Thank you for your attention.

Respectfully,

Virgil Weigel
State Representative,
56th District

