



# *Kansas State Lodge*

## *Fraternal Order of Police*

Testimony to the  
House Committee on Financial Institutions and Insurance  
House Bill 2100  
Mik Shanks, President  
Fraternal Order of Police State Lodge  
February 11, 2019

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee, thank you for allowing my written testimony in support of House Bill 2100. My name is Mik Shanks and I am the President of the Kansas State Lodge of the Fraternal Order of Police. On behalf of all 3,534 members of FOP lodges throughout Kansas, I am writing to express our support for House Bill 2100.

It has been nearly 21 years since there was a cost of living increase for state employees. House Bill 2100 would provide a cost of living adjustment ranging from 1% to 3%, depending on when the individual retired. The COLA is particularly important for the Kansas public services retirees who rely on KP&F and KPERS as their retirement income, many who have lost financial ground because of inflation including health, prescription drug, utility and housing costs.

Without a COLA, their purchasing power will steadily decline as they get older. This means that a middle-class retiree may find themselves struggling to afford even the basics—food, healthcare, housing, and transportation—in their advanced years.

Receiving a COLA would be welcome news for public service retirees. Thank you for considering this testimony and I encourage your support of House Bill 2100.