State of Kansas House of Representatives

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Representative, 103rd District

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February 21, 2022

Dear Mr. Chairman and members of the House Federal and State Affairs committee:

Thank you for allowing this hearing on HB 2462, state membership requirements for the joint committee on State-Tribal relations. I stand in strong support of HB 2462 because it not only impacts myself, but it can be a barrier for others who want to serve on the committee. I first served on the State-Tribal relations committee in 2011 and have been a member since then. I have served as ranking minority, Vice-Chair, and Chair of the State-Tribal relations committee. Currently, to be a member of the State-Tribal relations committee you must serve on certain committees. Although, I have been a member of the some of the committees in the past like the House Federal and State Affairs committee, I am not a current member of these committees that requires membership to serve on the State-Tribal relations committee. I ask that you please remove this requirement so I can serve on the State-Tribal relations committee without any obstacles. As former Vice-Chair of the National caucus of Native American State legislators, I have brought much knowledge and experience to this committee, and I would like to continue to do so. I appreciate your time and effort. Thank you!

Best,

Rep. Dr. Ponka-We Victors-Cozad

District 103