



KANSAS
ASSOCIATION OF
COUNTIES

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Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee
March 19, 2024
HB 2754

Kansas Association of Counties
Proponent Testimony – Written Only

Chairwoman Gossage and members of the Committee:

Thank you for allowing the Kansas Association of Counties to offer proponent testimony on HB 2754, which would restore a degree of local control by allowing counties to utilize home rule authority to exempt the county from conducting school sanitary inspections.

The Kansas Association of Counties and its member counties are strong proponents of local control and home rule authority. KSA 19-101c expressly states that county home rule powers “shall be liberally construed for the purpose of giving to counties the largest measure of self-government.” HB 2754 takes a step back in that direction by granting home rule authority regarding school sanitary inspections.

2020 Special Session HB 2016 exempted KSA 65-202 from County Home Rule authority, as well as removing language from KSA 65-202 that allowed local health departments to delegate this responsibility. This created a new burden on health departments. HB 2754 remedies this unintended result by eliminating section (c) of KSA 65-202 from the statutes that are outside county home rule authority. This is a positive step that is fully supported by KAC.

KAC would encourage the committee to support this legislation. Thank you for the time and consideration of these comments. Please feel free to contact KAC with any questions that you may have.

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