

**3/22/23**

**Jasmine Kyle – Director Southeast Kansas Humane Society  
Support In-Person Testimony – HB 2437**

**To:** Chair Rahjes and Members of the Committee

**From:** Jasmine Kyle, Director of the Southeast Kansas Humane Society

**Re:** Testimony as a proponent for HB 2437

**Date:** March 22, 2023

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee. My name is Jasmine Kyle, the Director of the Southeast Kansas Humane Society. I am speaking on behalf of our organization and a coalition of animal welfare supporters in Southeast Kansas who stand in support of HB 2437.

There are many positive changes to the Kansas Pet Animal Act within this bill, and several of them are crucial to supporting the work of non-profit animal shelters in your districts. HB 2437 tightens gaps in the current Act. All licensees would now be required to comply with the Kansas Pet Animal Act whether they sell in-state or out-of-state. This would further protect animal health and disease traceability.

The provisions in this bill follow the standards set by the American Veterinary Medical Association, like providing continuous access to water for dogs and cats, regular exercise, and socialization. Licensees are also required to follow disease prevention standards as set by AFI.

HB 2437 provides a direct right of recovery to Kansas animal shelters for the costs of care provided to animals housed by them on behalf of the state. This is absolutely necessary for shelters to continue to assist the state.

The Southeast Kansas Humane Society has assisted the KDA and AFI program with large-scale seizures. This is a huge undertaking and financial risk for a non-profit shelter to take on the costs of care when reimbursement is uncertain. These costs include, but are not limited to, veterinary medical care, food, and housing. Shelters may be required to house and care for seized animals for several days or several weeks. Our shelters have to find the space and staffing to provide these essential services for the state.

In closing, we ask that you support the work of Kansas shelters and rescues by passing HB 2437. I'd be happy to answer any questions the Committee has.

Sincerely,

Jasmine Kyle  
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