

**2/13/24**

**Jasmine Kyle – Director Southeast Kansas Humane Society  
Support In-Person Testimony – HB 2542**

**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 2542

**Date:** Tuesday, February 13th

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 2542.

Water is a basic need for all living creatures. Passing this bill would ensure Kansas dogs and cats at licensed pet animal agencies have **continuous** access to water. It would no longer be acceptable to put out a single pail of water during the winter, only to have it freeze and leave the animal without any source of water. Nor watching their animal try to drink from a metal pail of hot water in the record high Kansas heat. These are not acceptable conditions for any living animal and it is especially heartbreaking knowing that the animal in need has no control over this resource as its caretaker is in complete control. Caring for animals is a responsibility; thus these pet animal licensee owners must be held accountable when these life threatening levels of neglect happen.

Another wonderful point of this bill is permitting the commission to regulate exercise, socialization, disease prevention, and biosecurity. It is incredibly important for animals with rescues and breeders to be socialized on a daily basis with the goal of them becoming pets alongside our community members.

These bill items have been recommended by the American Veterinary Medical Association, the American Kennel Club, the Purdue Canine Care Standards, and some are even required by the Animal Welfare Act.

HB 2542 provides a direct line of improvement for the safety of Kansas pets. Thankfully, most Kansas pet animal licensees follow these guidelines. However, in the sad instance where animal cruelty is found in correlation to these bill items, this passing would allow action to be taken to protect Kansas dogs and cats.

In closing, we ask that you continue to protect this State's canines and felines by passing HB 2542. I'd be happy to answer any questions the Committee has.

Sincerely,

Jasmine Kyle

Director of the Southeast Kansas Humane Society

785-275-1631

[jkylesekhs@yahoo.com](mailto:jkylesekhs@yahoo.com)