Kansas Action for Children

February 24, 2026

Dustin Hare, Economic Security Policy Advisor
Kansas Action for Children
Written-only Proponent Testimony on HB 2768
House Committee on Commerce, Labor and Economic Development

Chairperson Tarwater and members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of HB 2768, which would require landlords and property management companies to accept partial rent payments as long as the full amount is paid by the due date.

While this bill would apply broadly to all payments made by a tenant to a landlord, its main objective is to require online rental payment systems to be configured to accept payments that are less than the full amount. This is necessary because that is not currently the case for some online payment processing systems.

There are multiple reasons why a renter might need to make partial payments.

1. **Assistance during hard times.** Unexpected events like job loss or medical issues can quickly cause a household to become financially unstable, and they may need to lean on a local charitable organization to help with rent for a month or two. Charitable organizations tend to have a maximum amount they can spend per client, which is often less than the full rent amount, and payments usually need to be made directly to the vendor instead of to the client. Requiring payment systems to receive partial payments will ensure charitable organizations are able to help pay a portion of the rent, preventing further destabilization and homelessness.

2. **Roommates.** Moving in with trusted friends or family members can be a great experience with huge financial benefits, but there are times where it may be a risk to hand your paycheck over to a roommate with hopes they'll actually make the rent payment. If each roommate is able to log in to a payment portal to pay their own portion of the rent, that risk is alleviated with no opportunity for a breakdown in trust between roommates.

3. **Budgeting.** Since housing is one of our most important needs, renters may elect to designate a certain portion of each paycheck toward the rent before they worry about

other expenses. If they get paid twice per month, it may make sense, for budgeting purposes, for them to pay half the rent early in the month and the second half late in the month.

This bill would provide renters with more options to get their rent paid each month and would very likely lead to the prevention of some evictions. This would reduce the harms caused to children that may otherwise result from homelessness and frequent moves, and it would reduce turnover for landlords, saving them money and stress. Should a landlord receive a partial payment during a given month but not receive the full amount, their ability to file for eviction would remain unchanged, as the first sentence of the bill makes clear that: *"Tenants shall be allowed to make multiple payments to the landlord or the landlord's designee as long as rent is paid* ***on time and in full.****"*

HB 2768 is sensible legislation that would benefit both renters and landlords. We urge the Committee to vote in favor of this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this important topic. You can reach me at dustin@kac.org if you have any additional questions.

About Kansas Action for Children

Kansas Action for Children is a nonprofit policy organization working to make Kansas a place where every child has the opportunity to grow up healthy and thrive. We work across the political spectrum to improve the lives of Kansas children through bipartisan advocacy, partnership, and information-sharing on key issues, including early learning and education, health, and economic security for families.