



**House Committee on Commerce, Labor, and Economic Development  
Testimony in opposition to HB 2447**

**Monday, March 13, 2023**

Chair Tarwater and members of the House Commerce Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony. I am Terry Humphrey, Executive Director of the Kansas Pet Protection Coalition, and a representative of our coalition partners. These include animal shelters and rescues and commercial pet entities advancing the health and wellness of pet animals in Kansas. The Kansas Pet Protection Coalition opposes House Bill 2447.

The Kansas Pet Protection Coalition supports local governments' right to solve local problems locally. We believe that animal overpopulation issues should be addressed as localities see fit, even if that means regulating the retail sale of puppies and kittens. Local citizens fund local shelters and bear the financial burdens of overpopulation and other pet animal issues. This bill *prevents* solutions to these problems, and the state offers no other support. Please do not tie their hands.

Beyond the Kansas Pet Protection Coalition's vested interest in this bill, it is important that we all pause to consider the far-reaching implications of this legislation. Let's imagine for a moment all of the important ordinances local governments implement to protect their communities that, under this bill, could not be enacted in the future: Ordinances regulating the sale of fireworks, dangerous animals, cigarettes and other tobacco products, alcohol, drug paraphernalia, adult book stores, and pornography. Ordinances banning or restricting services like adult massage parlors and strip clubs.

Please also imagine how culture will shift and how laws will change in the future. If marijuana is legalized federally or statewide, local governments will be unable to restrict or regulate the sale. We cannot know what else lies ahead and how local governments would choose to respond. But under home rule, it should be their right to do so.

The Kansas Pet Protection Coalition urges you to oppose House Bill 2447. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Terry Humphrey  
Executive Director

Kansas Animal Control Association – McPherson  
Northeast Kansas Animal Welfare Foundation – Topeka  
PALS – Wichita  
Spay/Neuter Kansas – Wichita  
Wichita Animal Action League – Wichita  
Beauties and Beasts – Wichita  
Nika Orebaugh – Sedgwick County ACO – Wichita  
Shanti Mikolajczyk– Sedgwick County ACO Advisory Board  
Ellen Querner – Wichita Animal Advisory Board  
Double 25 Animal Sanctuary – Derby  
Ashley Scott – ACO – Kansas City, KS Animal Services  
Leavenworth County Humane Society  
Atchison Humane Society  
High Plains Humane Society – Hays  
Western Plains Animal Refuge – Hays  
Kingman Co HS – Kingman  
SEK HS – Pittsburg  
Flint Hills Animal Advocates – Emporia  
Allen Co. Animal Rescue Foundation – LaHarpe  
Proud Animal Lovers Humane Society – Parsons  
Golden Belt HS – Great Bend  
Pawnee County Humane Society – Larned  
Humane Society of the United States  
Brown County Humane Society – Hiawatha  
Bette Lessen – ACO – City of Arma  
Angelia Timberlake – ACO – Chanute  
Sydney Mollentine – CEO – The Humane Society of Greater KC  
Great Plains SPCA – Merriam