



*Written Testimony Submitted to the
House Local Government Committee*

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City of Derby*

In Opposition to HB 2150

Good morning Mr. Chairman, Vice-Chair, Ranking Minority, and members of the committee. Thank you for the opportunity to testify in opposition to House Bill 2221.

Please consider our written opposition testimony HB 2150 on behalf of the City of Derby. While we cannot speak to the origins of this bill, we do know it will have the greatest impact on growing Kansas communities. Derby, fortunately, is one of those communities. Derby's annual rate of growth is greater than one percent. We have seen Derby grow from 18,000 to now over 26,000 people since 2000 (40+%). Few other Kansas communities are seeing such growth. Further, Derby is not immediately surrounded by other cities. There is room to grow which adds to developer excitement and interest while fulfilling residents' hope for a high-quality community – good schools, recreation, entertainment and retail opportunity, community gathering venues and green space.

As Derby grows, that growth usually is pushing outward while we continue to look at community core enhancement. When looking toward the future, the City works with developers and the community to determine next steps in our growth. Our advancement typically comes at the request of developers who have purchased acreage for development but need the utility and infrastructure hook-ups that come along with being inside city limits. City planners are aware of multi-acre residences outside of town. Unless the residence and the ground are sold for development, the City typically has limited interaction with that homeowner.

City planning is critical for a growing city like Derby which is very committed to its citizens and their desires for a strong community. City planning is not a convenience. It is a fundamental necessity and has ramifications long into the future of the community and the region. Zoning areas of influence and subdivision jurisdictions allow growing communities like Derby to plan for future growth in a smart, efficient, and sustainable manner and fulfill the goals of the community's comprehensive plan. Without this oversight, communities may grow in stunted, inefficient, or segmented patterns, creating challenges for future extension of infrastructure and services.



HB 2150 creates significant challenges for a growing community like Derby. We are proud to be a community on the rise and we want to work with our residents inside of town and outside of town to ensure we can build a city that grows and prospers in an organized fashion well into the future. We urge you not to adopt HB 2150. Thank you for the consideration.