



City of Roeland Park

4600 W. 51st Street
Roeland Park, KS 66205
(913) 722-2600

Wednesday, February 15, 2023, 9:00 am

To: House Committee on Local Government
Rep. Emil Bergquist, Chair

Re: HB2376
Opposition Testimony, Oral In-Person

Chair Bergquist and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

On behalf of the Roeland Park Governing Body, I strongly oppose HB2376. This bill purports to remove racially restrictive covenants by way of a simple resolution. Which sounds great, however it would also prohibit "city or county laws prohibiting discrimination that are more restrictive than state law." This would repeal all current and ban any future adoption of LGBTQ-inclusive ordinances, resolutions or policies. Over 19 cities in Kansas have adopted local protections and do not wish to see those regulations compromised.

I respectfully urge this committee strike New Section 2 of HB2376, or set it aside and instead consider [HB2174](#) which has been previously filed with this committee. HB2174 provides municipalities a process to remove racially restrictive covenants *without taking rights and protections away from any other group*.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Poppa".

Michael Poppa, Mayor
City of Roeland Park, KS