

Committee On Public Health and Welfare
Proponent Written Only Testimony
SB 461
February 12th 2024
Jon Lueth
Deputy State Director AFP KS



Dear Chairwoman Gossage and members of the committee,

On behalf of thousands of activists in Kansas, we appreciate the opportunity to provide written testimony in support of SB 461. Legislation such as this bill can be critical steps to address the red tape that is stifling productivity and creating barriers to economic opportunity for business and families in the sunflower state. It is also an opportunity remove outdated regulations.

In a study following 102 specific low to moderate income occupations across the 50 states, Kansas licenses 35 of those, requiring over 200 calendar days of training on top of fees and other requirements just to obtain permission to work from the Kansas government. 28 of those licenses were enacted between 1993-2012 alone. This is just a small window into the many other occupations that require licenses and other burdensome government requirements. Instead of increasing safety, it reduces competition. There are plenty of ways of address consumer protection, and Federal Trade Commission notes that truly when you note the inconsistency among states it lends itself even more to understand that these regulations do not equal consumer protection or prevention in these low to moderate income professions. It's about industry protectionism, not consumer protection. I also have a study from Mercatus.

AFP stands in strong support of this and other occupational licensing reform efforts and urges lawmakers to support this measure.

Sincerely,

Jon Lueth

Deputy State Director AFP KANSAS