



KANSAS
ASSOCIATION OF
COUNTIES

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House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee
February 17, 2025
HB 2297

Kansas Association of Counties
Opponent Testimony – Written Only

Chairman Rahjes and members of the Committee:

Thank you for allowing the Kansas Association of Counties to offer opponent testimony on HB 2297, which would create the attorney training program for rural Kansas act, which would allow the animal health commissioner to issue permits for raccoon ownership. It would allow for some restrictions at the state level, but would prevent local government from having additional restrictions.

The Kansas Association of Counties (KAC) and its member counties believe in the principle of local control, that government closest to the people is best positioned to be responsive to the needs of the people. For that reason, KAC and its members oppose legislation that invades local control.

County government should be able to be responsive to their residents. They should not be prevented from responding because of a state law about owning raccoons as pets.

KAC opposes HB 2297 as an invasion of local control and would ask that the committee not advance this legislation. Thank you for your time and consideration.

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