

State of Kansas



**TY MASTERSON**

*Senate President*

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 14  
HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE  
MARCH 5, 2025**

Dear Chairman Waymaster and Members of the Committee,

We've all seen "government shutdown politics" paralyze Washington. Politicians practice brinkmanship, using the ongoing operation of the federal government as a tool during budget negotiations, with everyday Americans' livelihoods hanging in the balance.

The same possibility currently exists at the state level. Every year, the fiscal year ends on June 30th, and if a budget is not adopted, the state government would shut down. This would cause havoc for those who rely upon funding from the state – including our schools, public safety, and critical social services.

In years past, budget negotiations have sometimes lasted into June, and the potential exists for politicians to use the June 30<sup>th</sup> deadline as a threat in a similar type of brinkmanship we've seen all too often in Washington. Governors could threaten to veto an entire budget to get their way on a particular issue, holding the entire state budget hostage.

SB 14 would remove that possibility by requiring that if a budget was not opted by the beginning of a new fiscal year, state operations would continue to go forward using the previous fiscal year's funding level until a new budget was adopted. As the legislature gets control of the budget process, this critical reform will ensure state government never shuts down due to politics in this building.

I urge you to support SB 14. Thank you.