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**Bill Number:** HB 2299

**Position:** Opponent

**Written Testimony**

I read and compared HB 2299 to our discrimination law and Kansas already has the power to do 99.9% of the things the bill says under the current law. From what I can tell this just seems like a sneaky way to backdoor ban and intimidate people for wearing PPE and costume store masks in public spaces and protests. That's the only difference I can see. I definitely oppose that.

I've also heard activist organizations think the holocaust remembrance association's definition of antisemitism is too old and outdated. I'm not confident I'm totally informed about why, but I think that might be because the definition is from 2016 and the results of the investigation by Amnesty International came years after.

Anyway I think the legislature should err on the side of caution and leave the law as is, because the commission already has the power to subpoena people anyway, and these changes just seem symbolic, and hyperbolic, without much purpose.

**Signature:** Alex Bishel

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