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Testimony of McPherson County Health Department to the House Health and Human Services Committee Proponent HB2397 March 5, 2025

Dear Chairperson and Members of the Committee,

I wanted to take this opportunity to offer my support for HB2397.

Since State Fiscal Year 2021, the Governor and Legislature have included a proviso in each budget bill to increase the minimum amount of the state assistance allocation (K.S.A. 65-242) for local health departments from \$7,000 to \$12,000. The proviso provides a small increase in the minimum amount of funding allocated to the smallest local health departments in Kansas. HB237 would simply change the statute to the higher \$12,000 amount instead of relying upon proviso language to be included in the budget bill each year.

Please continue to support the work local health departments do to protect the health and safety of Kansas residents by passing HB 2397.

Respectfully,

Shalei Shea RN BSN Director, Health Officer

McPherson County Health Department