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Dear Committee Members,

I am submitting this written testimony in opposition to HCR 5008. This bill would place all state agency policies under legislative control, undermining the separation of powers and disrupting the ability of state agencies to function effectively. The Kansas Constitution establishes a balance of power for a reason—to ensure no single branch can dominate decision-making. HCR 5008 erodes this balance by giving the legislature unchecked authority over executive branch policies.

State agencies are staffed by professionals with the expertise to develop policies based on research and the needs of the communities they serve. Allowing the legislature to approve, revoke, or suspend rules based on political preference, rather than professional judgment, will create unnecessary gridlock and hinder the ability of agencies to respond efficiently to public needs.

This bill is both unconstitutional and ineffective. Requiring legislative oversight for every agency decision would slow down essential governance, increase bureaucratic inefficiency, and inject partisan politics into areas that should be led by informed professionals. Furthermore, it disregards the will of Kansas voters who elect a governor to lead the executive branch.

Through this testimony, I formally express my opposition to HCR 5008. I urge careful consideration of the impact this measure would have on the effectiveness of state agencies and the balance of power in Kansas governance.

Sincerely,

*Mandy Cundy*