



Chairwoman Erickson and Members of the Committee:

Good morning, my name is Tanner Tempel, and I am here on behalf of Americans for Prosperity to express our support for Senate Bill No. 99. This legislation is a crucial step towards enhancing the efficiency and accountability of our state government.

Senate Bill No. 99 addresses a significant issue within our state agencies: the prolonged vacancy of full-time positions funded by the state general fund. Under this bill, the head of each state agency, in consultation with the director of the budget, is required to certify the number of full-time positions that have been vacant for more than 180 calendar days as of June 30, 2025. These positions will then be abolished, and the corresponding funds will be lapsed back into the state general fund.

This bill is important for several reasons:

1. **Fiscal Responsibility:** By abolishing long-vacant positions, we ensure that taxpayer dollars are not being allocated to unproductive or unnecessary roles. This reallocation of funds can be directed towards more pressing needs or returned to the taxpayers.
2. **Government Efficiency:** The elimination of these vacant positions will streamline state agencies, reducing bureaucratic overhead and promoting a more efficient government structure. This aligns with our goal of creating a leaner, more effective government that better serves the people of Kansas.
3. **Transparency and Accountability:** Senate Bill No. 99 promotes transparency by requiring state agencies to regularly review and report on their staffing needs. This process will help identify areas where resources are being underutilized and ensure that state agencies are held accountable for their staffing decisions.

In conclusion, Senate Bill No. 99 represents a common-sense approach to improving the efficiency and fiscal responsibility of our state government. By supporting this bill, we can take a significant step towards a more accountable and effective government that truly serves the interests of the people of Kansas.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today. I urge the committee to support Senate Bill No. 99. I am happy to answer any questions you may have.

Respectfully,

Tanner Tempel

Deputy State Director, Americans For Prosperity.