

From: <Lovwins@aol.com>
To: <GaryD@house.state.ks.us>
Date: 2/3/04 9:21AM
Subject: House Bill 2248

To: Representative Morrison

From: Sam Umscheid

Re: Lead Bill 65-1,124

Date: 2-3-04

Representative Morrison, I strongly support extending HB65-1,124. If not extended the State of Kansas will not qualify for future funding in the year 2011. My experience with funding through HUD has been one of many years. The organization funds a second round of grants to HUD recipients if they have a proven track record. The clause that sunsets the bill would keep the state from applying for addition resources in the year 2011.

Childhood lead poisoning is the number one environmental threat to children from ages 6 months to 6 years of age. Childhood lead poisoning is also totally preventable.

The money that we have now secured through HUD will be used to do rehabilitation, training of local residents about the hazards of lead exposure during a remodel and will also train community partners in different organizations throughout Wyandotte County to have a sustainable program that has local people contracting to do the work in their communities.

The Hud grant also puts money into the local economy by, having trained workers do the abatement or rehabilitation in their communities which also helps the communities to have a sustainable program and helps businesses and local merchants by supplying the materials that are needed to do the work.

The 3.2 million dollars also improves the housing stock in Wyandotte County. The program can also piggy back on weatherization and other HUD programs the state has secured that help create a Healthy Home and Healthy Community.

I would like to testify on 2-5-04 at 1:30pm.

Sincerley,

Sam Umscheid
Environmental Health Specialist
Wyandotte County