



KANSAS
ASSOCIATION OF
COUNTIES

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House Federal and State Affairs Committee
March 12, 2021
House Bill 2415

Kansas Association of Counties
Neutral Testimony

Chairman Barker and members of the Committee:

The Kansas Association of Counties and its member counties understand the importance of investigating fires and deaths that may result from those fires. KAC also understands the role that the state fire marshal plays in this work. KAC believes the state fire marshal should in fact be tasked with the important work of investigating fires. As such, KAC supports limiting the language in new Section 1 to specify that the state fire marshal should be enforcing criminal laws and conducting investigations consistent with the course and scope of their employment – fires. This is an appropriate limitation.

The Kansas Association of Counties and its member counties support allowing the fire marshal to adopt rules and regulations for the minimum standards of fire equipment and clothing. This is an appropriate task for the state fire marshal and gives the state fire marshal the necessary discretion as technology and fire safety advancements are made.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony to the committee. Please let me know if we can provide further assistance on this topic.

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