

Testimony for SB 501

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Opposition to Senate Bill 501—Committee on Public Health and Welfare

Chairman Hilderbrand and members of the Committee:

I have been a Kansas resident for 32 years. I am deeply disappointed that you are considering the contents of SB 501. I spent my entire 42 year career feeding children, our most vulnerable citizens.

As a retired, and longtime Director of Food Services in Kansas, I know the importance of focusing on less paperwork, instead concentrating on the subject at hand, which is to get nutritious food into the stomachs of our Kansas adults and children. Please don't add more paperwork to our hardworking agencies that are just trying to feed hungry people!

SB 501 would be a very pricy venture, resulting in substantially more paperwork and substantially less nutritional food for our adults and children.

I volunteer weekly for Harvesters, the Community Food Network, at a food pantry in a low income area of Overland Park. Passage of this bill would overwhelm our food pantries in all of Kansas. We simply don't have enough food or volunteers to handle that at the food pantries.

It seems to me that this bill would be very costly for taxpayers, while at the same time increasing food insecurity for the "nutritionally challenged". Isn't that a big step backward for our state?

Thank you for your time. I urge you to vote against SB 501.

