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

Chairman Hilderbrand and members of the Committee:

This testimony is submitted on behalf of HumanKind Ministries, Wichita Kansas in opposition to Senate Bill 501.

HumanKind provides shelter, housing, and case management for those individuals who are currently homeless. We provide intensive case management to work with individuals and families to achieve their own housing.

I am newly transplant to Kansas and know how much Kansas assists their own. My organization relies on both the Kansas Food Bank and the state Commodity program. Without these programs, my food cost would more than triple. I served approximately 2,215 meals to at my locations, plus assistance those families with food insecurity in their own apartments

I ask for your thoughtful consideration and vote in opposition to this bill that will cost Kansas taxpayer's tens of millions of dollars, increase food insecurity among working poor Kansas families and put additional pressures on community food pantries trying to help their neighbors.

This bill will also make these important family support programs more costly and less effective, further overburdening Kansas' charitable food pantries.

I believe this bill will increase Kansas's food insecurity rate which is already at 12.1 %.

Respectfully,

Abbey Gleichenhau
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