



March 13, 2023

Representative Sean Tarwater, Chairman
House Committee on Commerce, Labor and Economic Development

RE: HB 2447 / Letter of Opposition

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee,

The American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN) is the nonprofit, nonpartisan advocacy affiliate of the American Cancer Society. Our mission is to end cancer as we know it, for everyone, through advocacy. To that end, ACS CAN will continue to prioritize policies that help Kansans prevent, find, treat and survive cancer.

Local lawmakers play a critical role in passing and implementing fact-based policies to prevent and reduce cancer diagnoses and deaths in their communities. Local ordinances can often be more innovative and tailored to community needs and, in fact, many state and federal public health laws in effect today were started at the local level. Tobacco, menthol and flavor bans passed throughout the country are examples of local decisions that can provide true impact to the health of our communities.

HB 2447 restricts local governments from fully exercising that control and it is for this reason ACS CAN opposes the bill. ACS CAN works at the local, state, and federal levels; thus, it supports each level of government's ability to implement policies for cleaner, safer, healthier communities.

Thank you for the consideration. If I can provide more information please do not hesitate to contact me.

Megan Word
Government Relations Director, Kansas
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network