

To: Senate Committee on Education
From: Spencer Duncan, Government Affairs Director
Date: March 5, 2024
RE: SB 479 – Transferring Teachers from KPERS 3 to KPERS 2
Neutral – Written Testimony

Thank you to the Chair and committee for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

The League of Kansas Municipalities is neutral on the overall policy position of whether teachers should be transferred from KPERS 3 to KPERS 2. Teachers are essential to our communities, and ensuring they are compensated appropriately is critical to their recruitment and retention. Great teachers create good schools which make strong communities.

The purpose of this testimony is to highlight that this change should also be considered for city employees in Kansas. KPERS 3 does not offer the same important benefits KPERS 2 provides, and that loss has been detrimental to cities' retention and recruitment of good, long-term employees.

City employees are essential to providing citizens with basic services, from public safety operations to infrastructure services. The ability to retain good, long-term employees is crucial to keeping these services running efficiently. Including city employees in this change in KPERS would be a critical step in helping cities recruit and retain good, long-term employees.

Thank you for your time and consideration of these issues. I am always available to provide additional information and answer any questions you have.



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