

Proponent Testimony on HB2416

Submitted 3-2-23

Proponent Testimony on behalf of Kansas Silver Haired Legislature

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Chairman Smith and Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in favor of HB2416. I am testifying on behalf of the Kansas Silver Haired Legislature which represents over half a million Kansans who are over age 60. KSHL has made this bill one of their priorities in legislation for several years. It is time to finally move forward on this bill.

There are several reasons that it makes sense to support this bill.

1. HB2416 has bipartisan support as you can see from the testimony that has been submitted. The bill passed this committee last year but never got a vote on the floor.
2. This bill will help Area Agencies on Aging provide more services to elderly in their homes through the Senior Care Act. The tax savings of \$337,000 can be applied to in-home services such as mobility upgrades, home visitations, rehabilitation services, transportation, and other necessary services to allow elderly Kansans to stay safely in their homes. This type of assistance is massively less expensive than the alternative of institutional housing or hospitalization.
3. HB2416 would bring equity among the eleven Area Agencies on Aging. The three agencies that are organized as county agencies are tax exempt. The eight agencies that are organized as Not For Profits are not tax exempt. Passage of this bill gives all Kansas Area Agencies on Aging the same sales tax exempt status. The exempt agencies are in large urban areas. The current non-exempt agencies are in multi-county rural areas.
4. The fiscal note for this bill (\$337,000) will have a relatively insignificant impact on state revenues. We ask that you urge leadership to give this bill a vote on the House Floor.

Thank you and on behalf of the Silver Haired Legislature we ask you to pass HB2416.