

Kansas Commission on Disability Concerns
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Testimony in Support of HB 2442
January 26, 2012
House Appropriations Committee
By Martha K. Gabehart
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Thank you Chairman Rhoades and members of the committee for this opportunity to testify in support of HB 2442. The Kansas Commission on Disability Concerns (KCDC) has long supported efforts to expand employment opportunities for people with disabilities. However, employment of people with disabilities continues to be much lower than employment of their nondisabled peers.

HB 2442 shows Kansas believes employing people with disabilities is important and supports those employers who hire significant numbers of people with disabilities by giving them an advantage over other bidders. This is not a mandate for state contract bidders, but an incentive.

KCDC requests two small amendments in terminology. We respectfully request that on page 7, lines 26 and 31, the term "mental retardation" be replaced with the more currently accepted term "intellectual/developmental disability."

Thank you again for this opportunity to testify. KCDC encourages you to support passage of HB 2442.