

February 12, 2013

To House Standing Committee on Federal and State Affairs
Representative Arlen Siegfried, Chair
Representative Steve Brunk, Vice Chair

From Leah Herron

RE: Relating to Official Misconduct HB2175

In Support

Representative Siegfried, Representative Brunk and Committee Members

I support HB 2175 for the following reasons:

I very much support the Constitution of the United States of America. Amendment IV states, *The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the places to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.*

I am not aware of any incidence where the TSA has actually caught a terrorist. The TSA is an illusion of security and it is very much in violation of my fourth amendment right of no unreasonable searches. I have personally been forced to endure a humiliating pat down as I was lectured for wearing an oversized sweatshirt without a shirt underneath so I could remove it. I am a law abiding citizen who has never given any reason to be suspected as being a terrorist, yet I was subjected to a search by the TSA.

Incoming foreign flights do not necessarily have the same level of security. I submit that these unreasonable searches simply give the illusion of security and violate my Constitutional rights at the same time.

These unreasonable searches are very traumatizing to children. These searches are frightening as well as it sends the child a wrong message. We teach about 'stranger danger' and 'bad touch' and then subject them to these searches, many times with the additional trauma of separating the child from the parent. There is a specific example of a four year old child being separated for a pat down after she hugged her grandmother. The child was wearing a sleeveless shirt and leggings without pockets, yet the child was forced to endure a separation from her family and a pat down. This caused much undue trauma for the child. This incident occurred in Wichita, Kansas.

Please vote YES on this amendment to protect the liberties of people in Kansas.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak today. I will gladly stand for questions.