

COMMITTEE TESTIMONY - House Committee on Local Government

BILL #: HB 2137

DATE OF TESTIMONY: 01/31/17

NAME OF PERSON TESTIFYING: **Brandon Beck, President**

AGENCY REPRESENTED: **Kansas EMS Association**

PHONE NUMBER: 785-580-3459

PLEASE CHECK ONE:

PROPONENT

NEUTRAL

OPPONENT

VERBAL TESTIMONY

WRITTEN TESTIMONY



KANSAS EMS ASSOCIATION
6021 SW 29th St., Suite A PMB 359 | Topeka, KS 66614
Ph: 785.580.3459 | Fax: 888.760.6884 | www.kemsa.org

Unity Is Strength

To: Kansas House Committee on Local Government

From: Kansas Emergency Medical Services Association (KEMSA), Brandon Beck, President
Re: KEMSA Support for HB 2137

Date: January 31, 2017

The Kansas Emergency Medical Services Association (KEMSA) is the professional association representing the paramedics, EMTs and ambulance services serving the citizens of Kansas. KEMSA works on various regulatory and legislative matters as well as conferences and educational programs.

KEMSA requests your support for HB 2137.

Many counties in Kansas are challenged to provide adequate ambulance services due to the shortage of trained personnel. The training and testing required to assure the personnel are ready to assist their neighbors can be a challenge. The long hours of service required to treat and often transport patients to hospitals hours away is often daunting to individuals with families and jobs to maintain.

There are times that those who serve as local elected officials are also willing to serve with local ambulance services. These functions are often volunteer or very minimally paid. Adjusting the Kansas laws to allow local elected officials to also serve with the local ambulance service does not challenge the basic premise of avoiding contradictory roles due to the limited dollars involved in serving with the local ambulance service yet can be critical to assist with the staffing needed to provide this important service.

KEMSA encourages you to support HB 2137.

Sincerely,

Brandon Beck
President
Kansas EMS Association (KEMSA)
brandon@kemsa.org