

Date: February 9, 2017

To: Chairwoman Kristey Williams and House Local Government Members

From: Cindy Green, Deputy Director

Re: Support of HB 2210

Thank you Chairwoman and House Local Government Committee Members for the opportunity to speak in support of HB 2210.

In 2015, changes were made to K.S.A. 25-2711 in regards to political signs. Around the same time, the U.S. Supreme Court issued its decision in *Reed v. Town of Gilbert* in regards to 1st amendment protections and temporary signs. It is the League's belief there is conflict between the current statute and the Supreme Court's ruling. *Reed v. Town of Gilbert* clarified that cities and counties may not treat signs differently based on content. K.S.A. 25-2711 currently creates a special class of signs based solely off the sign's content for political signs in violation of the 1st amendment.

During the 2016 elections, cities in Kansas were challenged by this conflict. We believe the changes in HB 2110 resolve this conflict by replacing political with temporary signs. Under the change, all temporary signs will be treated the same regardless of content in compliance with the 1st amendment.

Based on these clarifications we recommend the committee move HB 2210 out favorably to the full House.