



## Kansas Public Health Association

- Promoting and Improving Population Health in Kansas

February 7, 2017

Robert Moser, M.D., President  
Kansas Public Health Association  
House Bill 2237  
House Taxation Committee

Chairman Johnson and Members of the Committee:

The Kansas Public Health Association (KPHA) mission is "Promoting and Improving Population Health in Kansas". KPHA is a professional association for Kansas public health practitioners, professionals, and advocates. As a voice for public health, KPHA provides a forum for individuals and organizations to work collectively to assure conditions in which Kansans' lives will be healthy. KPHA thanks the members of the House Taxation Committee for the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill 2237.

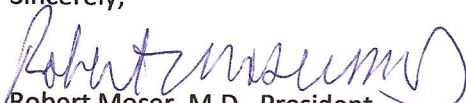
Promoting health and preventing disease and injury is the cornerstone of public health and many sectors and levels in our society play a role in public health activity. Funding to support this work is usually a combination of fees, state and federal grants and local funding. Since the most recent recession, funding from the state level has continually decreased with Kansas ranked 44th among states according to the 2015 United Health Foundation's America's Health Ranking.

While all Kansans can support efficient and effective governance, the reduction in state revenues in Kansas from the 2012 tax plan has been significantly more than expected and is impacting the ability of the state to perform its functions and services. This is affecting many sectors across Kansas that contributes to the health and safety of our citizens.

The Kansas Public Health Association supports House Bill 2237 as we feel it would return fairness to the Kansas tax plan and provide much needed support the middle class and the poor. It returns to an economic policy long proven effective and will restore predictable tax revenues to allow the state to better align its responsibilities with adequate resources. Failure to pass House Bill 2237 will continue to adversely impact many services not only through reduced funding and personnel, but push the costs further into the future.

Thank you Chairman Johnson and members of the committee for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

  
Robert Moser, M.D., President  
Kansas Public Health Association