

Date: March 21, 2017

To: Senate Federal and State Affairs Committee

From: Eric B. Smith, Deputy General Counsel

Re: Opposition Testimony on SB 6 – **WRITTEN ONLY**

I want to thank Chairman LaTurner and the Committee members for allowing this opportunity for the League of Kansas Municipalities, on behalf of its member cities, to provide written testimony in opposition to SB 6.

When a police officer is in the process of making an arrest, there will never be a "common" situation. Every arrest is going to be different and require officers to react differently based on the situation placed before them. SB 6 is an attempt to require a one-size-fits-all policy to address every enforcement action and how an officer must make "inquires to ascertain the presence and location of any firearm." In the real world of police work, events develop instantaneously and it is not reasonable to require a written policy to address every situation.

Every law enforcement agency in this state trains their officers on controlling any enforcement action as well as being aware of those in close proximity who can become a danger to the officer and the public. When an officer is having an interaction with the public the officer's training and experience will control their reactions and questioning not a written policy. SB 6 would be an unfunded mandate, attempting to control local law enforcement policy. The establishment of policy is a local matter that should be left to local agencies to address as necessary.

Based on the reasons stated above the League of Kansas Municipalities respectfully requests that SB 6 **not** be passed out of Committee.