

January 27, 2021

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of the Kansas State Rifle Association, thank you for the opportunity to testify in conditional support of H.B. 2058, AN ACT concerning firearms; relating to the personal and family protection act; recognition of licenses issued by other jurisdictions; amending K.S.A. 75-7c03 and K.S.A. 2020 Supp. 21-6302 and repealing the existing sections.

This legislation was originally brought forward by the Kansas Attorney General's office in 2017 to address a concealed carry reciprocity issue. H.B. 2058 would provide that a valid license or permit to carry a concealed firearm issued by another jurisdiction would be recognized in Kansas. A valid license or permit that is recognized in Kansas would only entitle the lawful holder to carry concealed handguns in Kansas, and the holder would be required to act in accordance with the laws of Kansas while in the state.

The bill would also allow for out of state individuals ages 18, 19, and 20 to carry concealed firearms provided that they had license or permit granted by another jurisdiction recognized by the state Kansas. While the Kansas State Rifle Association supports this provision, we are troubled that the bill creates inequity between out-of-state citizens and in-state citizens between the ages of 18 and 21. We would urge the Committee to amend the bill with language that would allow Kansas citizens ages 18, 19, & 20 to acquire a concealed carry permit and lawfully carry concealed firearms.

Thank you, and I am happy to stand for questions at the appropriate time.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jason P. Watkins". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jason P. Watkins