



TO: House Insurance Committee

FROM: Sandy Jacquot, Director of Law/General Counsel

DATE: March 14, 2012

RE: Written Neutral Testimony on SB 250

Thank you for allowing the League of Kansas Municipalities to submit testimony regarding SB 250. This bill will allow the family of a firefighter killed in the line of duty to remain on a city or county health insurance plan, if the firefighter was covered under such plan. While this is an unfunded mandate, LKM believes that, as written, the bill would have a very minimal fiscal impact on cities in Kansas. LKM did not testify on the bill in the Senate Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee, but was actively involved in working on a compromise that allows the League to remain neutral on the bill. The reduction of the length of benefit from five years to eighteen months was a good compromise. The temptation is for other employee groups to lobby to be added to the bill. If that were to happen, it would be an untenable mandate that LKM and its member cities would strongly oppose. Therefore, LKM urges this committee that if it passes out SB 250 favorably for passage, that it do so with no amendments.