



Written Opposition Testimony of the **Kansas Public Health Association** to the
House Committee on Welfare Reform
HB 2141 | February 9, 2023

Chairman Awerkamp and members of the committee:

Thank you for allowing the Kansas Public Health Association to provide opposition written testimony for HB 2141, which would require custodial and non-custodial parents to cooperate with child support enforcement programs and disqualifying such parents for being delinquent in payments.

This bill adds more barriers for parents needing to access food assistance programs including disturbing families existing support systems that include informal agreements with non-custodial and custodial parents, added risk for parents and children in domestic violence situations, and overall reducing access for food assistance to children and parents that make reunification after foster care more difficult for those who cannot meet the requirements.

In addition, HB 2141 would increase administrative costs for the state, and complicate the food assistance program for agency staff and program recipients. These new requirements would increase the likelihood of households being removed from the food assistance program and forced to reapply, which would require an additional administrative burden to the state.

The Kansas Public Health Association encourages the committee to vote no on HB 2141, that would make it harder for parents to provide for their children.

Respectfully submitted,

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