



City of Lawrence

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February 13, 2019

Representative Kent Thompson
Chair – House Local Government Committee
Rm. 218 North, Statehouse
Topeka, KS 66612

Re: House Bill 2135

Dear Representative Thompson and Committee Members,

The City of Lawrence strongly supports the passage of House Bill 2135 relating to the regulation of political signs by cities and counties. A repeal of K.S.A. 2018 Supp. 25-2711 is needed. The 2015 legislation was enacted prior to the U.S. Supreme Court decision in *Reed v Town of Gilbert, Ariz.*, 135 S. Ct. 2218. Municipal enforcement of content-based sign code restrictions as required by K.S.A. 2018 Supp. 25-2711 is likely unconstitutional in light of the *Reed* decision.

The City of Lawrence also urges passage of this bill in support of the Home Rule Authority of Kansas Municipalities. Cities must be able to regulate and protect the public right of way. The legislature should not restrict cities' ability to craft their own ordinances and regulations regarding this vital publicly owned asset.

On behalf of the residents of Lawrence, I urge you to pass House Bill 2135.

Sincerely,



Lisa Larsen
Mayor

