



TO: House Committee on Health and Human Services

FROM: Nicole Proulx Aiken, Legal Counsel

DATE: February 19, 2014

RE: Written Testimony on HB 2372

Thank you for allowing the League of Kansas Municipalities to provide written testimony on HB 2372. LKM does not have a position on whether the Legislature should declare that fluoride is not a nutrient used by the human body because of its possible potential to cause harmful side effects. LKM is submitting written testimony, however, because we oppose Section 2 of the bill. Section 2 of HB 2372 would require cities that provide fluoridated water to inform its consumers that ingesting fluoride lowers children's IQs.

Essentially, Section 2 erodes home rule and unnecessarily circumvents local control. Many cities throughout the state have already addressed their citizens' concerns about fluoridated water. Moreover, cities - as water providers - are in the best position to study the effects of fluoride and determine if the warning required by Section 2 is warranted. A State mandate is not necessary in this situation.

For these reasons, LKM requests that this Committee remove Section 2 of HB 2372. Thank you again for allowing me to submit written testimony. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.