

Gayla Shields, Miami County Treasurer



TESTIMONY

House Local Government Committee

House Bill No. 2197

February 17, 2015

Chairman Huebert and members of the House Local Government Committee, my name is Gayla Shields, Miami County Treasurer. Thank you for considering my neutral testimony today on House Bill No. 2197. I give this testimony today with the support of the Kansas County Treasurer's Association.

There are laws and protocols in place that county offices adhere to for the assessment of property and the placement of special assessments upon property and the tax roll, in addition to making changes or abatements to tax rolls. These protocols involve other county offices, not solely the county treasurer. It is good practice to have dual control and/or separation of duties when facilitating changes on a tax roll, especially, when involving the collection and/or refunding of funds indicated on a tax statement.

With that in mind, I respectfully ask for an amendment to the bill striking the word "treasurer" from lines 13, 24, and 33 of this bill so that the processes of correcting the tax rolls, as the language of the bill indicates, is not restrictive or differing from current processes within counties to accomplish the end result. To spell out the specific protocols of correction in the language of the bill would be cumbersome and unnecessary, in my opinion.

In conclusion, I respectfully ask for this amendment to this bill. It allows counties to continue with current protocols to facilitate the changes mandated in the language of the bill. Thank you, again, for allowing me this opportunity and for considering my testimony when reflecting on this bill.