

Honorable Steve Huebert and Local Government Committee members:

I come before the committee today to request that the committee consider amending certain existing sections of KSA 12-1761 and 12-1767b, as specified in HB 2296.

The defined amendments to the existing sections do not curtail the use of the financial tool known as the Public Building Commission.

What it will do, will allow greater input by the public (the voters) within their communities.

Historically when it comes to what is best for a community's well-being and growth, it has been the will of the public citizens (the voters) who stepped up and assumed the responsibility of the cost of that growth and its indebtedness. It should not be the will of only special interest groups and a few elected or self appointed officials; no matter how well intentioned or idealistic their goals.

Any suppression of a public vote whether in local, state or federal government is a violation of the citizen's sovereignty.

Suppression of the vote may make for easy governance but not for good government.

My presence here today is in support of HB 2296 and changes that will make the Public Building Commission a positive tool for the whole of Kansas going forward.

Respectfully Submitted,

Larry L. Tawney