

House Taxation Committee HB 2367 Testimony

Submitted by Miami County Commissioners, Rob Roberts, Chairman
Presented by Janet McRae, Miami County Economic Development Director
3:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 11, 2015



Janet McRae
Economic Development
Director

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee,

Thank you very much for the opportunity to be here today on behalf of the Miami County Commissioners to voice support for HB 2367. This bill would allow Miami County to be designated as a Rural Opportunity Zone.

Our county shares many characteristics with the counties already authorized for this program.

We are primarily a county of bedroom communities with about 70 percent of our civilian workforce travelling outside of Miami County for employment. According to the Kansas Budget Office, the county's population growth has been relatively flat with actual population decreases recorded in four of the last six years.

New housing starts have dramatically declined with few signs of a rebound. During 2014, 55 new single family building permits were issued in the entire county. That is a 75 percent decrease from 2006. Perhaps more telling, only 12 of those 2014 permits were issued by a city – a 93% decrease from 2006.

Statewide ROZ numbers have shown particular success in recruiting healthcare workers. In Miami County, this industry sector represents about 1300 jobs or 12% of available jobs. These employers are struggling to fill their open positions – as readily demonstrated by some of the difficulties being seen at Osawatomie State Hospital.

Members of the Miami County Commission believe the ROZ program offers tools that will help the county attract new residents and broaden our laborpool. We would appreciate your support of HB 2367.

Respectfully submitted,
Janet McRae, Miami County Director of Economic Development

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Overview of Counties

Of the state's 105 counties, 77 currently are designated as ROZ counties. With five metro counties designated by the Kansas Department of Commerce, fewer than two dozen counties are excluded from the program.

Comparison to Sumner County

Sumner County was added to the ROZ program in 2014. They are located adjacent to a metro area and near a state border. They share several other similarities to Miami County.

	Sumner County	Miami County
Metropolitan Statistical Area	Wichita	Kansas City
Population Certified 7/14	23,591	32,835
Change from 7/13-7/14	Loss 83 people, -0.4%	Gain 223, 0.7%
Change from 7/12-7/13	Loss 113, -0.5%	Loss 103, -0.3%
Borders	Oklahoma	Missouri
Mean Travel Time to Work	23.2	28.2
Homeownership 2008-12	76.8%	80.9%
Median Value of Owner-occupied Homes 2008-12	\$85,600	\$163,200
Number of Households 2008-12	9,258	12,154
Persons per Household 2008-12	2.55	2.63
Per Capita Income 2008-12	\$48,105	\$61,272
Persons Below Poverty Level 2008-12	13.5%	9.0%
Number of Businesses, 2012	2,257	3,211

Sources: Kansas Budget Office and US Census

County	2000	2010	2013	Population Change 2000-2010	Population Change 2010-2013
Elk	3,217	2,870	2,655	-10.8%	-7.5%
Meade	4,621	4,605	4,343	-0.3%	-5.7%
Smith	4,519	3,859	3,706	-14.6%	-4.0%
Rush	3,536	3,317	3,186	-6.2%	-3.9%
Greenwood	7,647	6,682	6,424	-12.6%	-3.9%
Haskell	4,302	4,292	4,141	-0.2%	-3.5%
Marion	13,394	12,663	12,219	-5.5%	-3.5%
Edwards	3,434	3,049	2,945	-11.2%	-3.4%
Hamilton	2,651	2,698	2,609	1.8%	-3.3%
Chase	3,019	2,788	2,700	-7.7%	-3.2%
Wilson	10,303	9,394	9,105	-8.8%	-3.1%
Montgomery	36,242	35,365	34,292	-2.4%	-3.0%
Washington	6,413	5,799	5,629	-9.6%	-2.9%
Labette	22,733	21,547	20,916	-5.2%	-2.9%
Morris	6,120	5,913	5,741	-3.4%	-2.9%
Harper	6,511	6,032	5,860	-7.4%	-2.9%
Stanton	2,394	2,258	2,194	-5.7%	-2.8%
Republic	5,804	4,955	4,820	-14.6%	-2.7%
Cherokee	22,554	21,562	20,978	-4.4%	-2.7%
Lincoln	3,576	3,233	3,147	-9.6%	-2.7%
Morton	3,482	3,227	3,143	-7.3%	-2.6%
Chautauqua	4,344	3,646	3,552	-16.1%	-2.6%
Anderson	8,091	8,102	7,897	0.1%	-2.5%
Woodson	3,754	3,301	3,221	-12.1%	-2.4%
Cloud	10,238	9,519	9,292	-7.0%	-2.4%
Sumner	25,946	24,111	23,591	-7.1%	-2.2%
Coffey	8,932	8,590	8,412	-3.8%	-2.1%
Bourbon	15,366	15,165	14,852	-1.3%	-2.1%
Wichita	2,512	2,238	2,192	-10.9%	-2.1%
Allen	14,393	13,359	13,124	-7.2%	-1.8%
Ellsworth	6,536	6,509	6,398	-0.4%	-1.7%
Clay	8,827	8,550	8,406	-3.1%	-1.7%
Kearny	4,497	3,989	3,923	-11.3%	-1.7%
Phillips	5,995	5,632	5,540	-6.1%	-1.6%
Jefferson	18,553	19,122	18,813	3.1%	-1.6%
Kiowa	3,264	2,560	2,523	-21.6%	-1.4%
Stafford	4,752	4,422	4,359	-6.9%	-1.4%
Doniphan	8,240	7,954	7,851	-3.5%	-1.3%
Linn	9,580	9,636	9,516	0.6%	-1.2%
Ness	3,448	3,107	3,073	-9.9%	-1.1%

Extract From Kansas Data Archive

County	2000	2010	2013	Population Change 2000-2010	Population Change 2010-2013
Elk	3,217	2,870	2,655	-10.8%	-7.5%
Franklin	24,869	26,005	25,740	4.6%	-1.0%
Marshall	10,933	10,104	10,002	-7.6%	-1.0%
Rice	10,728	10,111	10,011	-5.8%	-1.0%
Dickinson	19,349	19,801	19,609	2.3%	-1.0%
Osage	16,756	16,298	16,142	-2.7%	-1.0%
Cheyenne	3,157	2,720	2,694	-13.8%	-1.0%
Lane	2,145	1,736	1,720	-19.1%	-0.9%
Jackson	12,655	13,489	13,366	6.6%	-0.9%
Ottawa	6,192	6,093	6,042	-1.6%	-0.8%
Atchison	16,796	16,870	16,749	0.4%	-0.7%
Russell	7,349	6,983	6,933	-5.0%	-0.7%
Graham	2,925	2,611	2,593	-10.7%	-0.7%
Jewell	3,747	3,067	3,046	-18.1%	-0.7%
Norton	5,962	5,660	5,622	-5.1%	-0.7%
Barton	28,163	27,687	27,509	-1.7%	-0.6%
Reno	64,731	64,563	64,190	-0.3%	-0.6%
Decatur	3,460	2,947	2,930	-14.8%	-0.6%
Osborne	4,436	3,837	3,818	-13.5%	-0.5%
Lyon	35,967	33,632	33,510	-6.5%	-0.4%
Neosho	16,934	16,484	16,430	-2.7%	-0.3%
Trego	3,280	2,989	2,980	-8.9%	-0.3%
Gray	5,913	6,027	6,009	1.9%	-0.3%
Clark	2,402	2,199	2,193	-8.5%	-0.3%
Cowley	36,342	36,303	36,204	-0.1%	-0.3%
Pawnee	7,225	6,988	6,971	-3.3%	-0.2%
Butler	59,681	65,920	65,803	10.5%	-0.2%
Harvey	32,894	34,782	34,741	5.7%	-0.1%
Miami	28,536	32,859	32,835	15.1%	-0.1%
Nemaha	10,694	10,165	10,161	-4.9%	0.0%
Saline	53,659	55,750	55,740	3.9%	0.0%
Kingman	8,685	7,842	7,844	-9.7%	0.0%
Thomas	8,179	7,942	7,948	-2.9%	0.1%
Wabaunsee	6,868	7,045	7,051	2.6%	0.1%
Sheridan	2,795	2,550	2,553	-8.8%	0.1%
Brown	10,709	9,981	9,997	-6.8%	0.2%
Crawford	38,262	39,191	39,278	2.4%	0.2%
Shawnee	170,027	178,279	178,831	4.9%	0.3%
Rooks	5,665	5,172	5,190	-8.7%	0.3%
Mitchell	6,911	6,355	6,378	-8.0%	0.4%

County	2000	2010	2013	Population Change 2000-2010	Population Change 2010-2013
Elk	3,217	2,870	2,655	-10.8%	-7.5%
Finney	40,508	36,945	37,098	-8.8%	0.4%
Logan	3,059	2,771	2,798	-9.4%	1.0%
Stevens	5,460	5,750	5,816	5.3%	1.1%
Sedgwick	453,705	499,264	505,415	10.0%	1.2%
Grant	7,880	7,846	7,950	-0.4%	1.3%
McPherson	29,572	29,139	29,569	-1.5%	1.5%
Wyandotte	157,883	157,773	160,384	-0.1%	1.7%
Scott	5,100	4,951	5,035	-2.9%	1.7%
Seward	22,616	22,996	23,390	1.7%	1.7%
Sherman	6,746	6,010	6,115	-10.9%	1.7%
Barber	5,292	4,847	4,947	-8.4%	2.1%
Leavenworth	68,957	76,546	78,185	11.0%	2.1%
Ellis	27,454	28,447	29,061	3.6%	2.2%
Hodgeman	2,072	1,908	1,950	-7.9%	2.2%
Ford	32,544	34,056	34,819	4.6%	2.2%
Pratt	9,649	9,646	9,878	0.0%	2.4%
Greeley	1,530	1,256	1,290	-17.9%	2.7%
Douglas	100,247	111,274	114,322	11.0%	2.7%
Gove	3,087	2,683	2,769	-13.1%	3.2%
Rawlins	2,988	2,502	2,589	-16.3%	3.5%
Comanche	1,955	1,886	1,955	-3.5%	3.7%
Johnson	454,539	545,696	566,933	20.1%	3.9%
Pottawatomie	18,302	21,733	22,691	18.7%	4.4%
Riley	63,237	71,543	75,394	13.1%	5.4%
Wallace	1,733	1,483	1,569	-14.4%	5.8%
Geary	27,845	35,302	37,384	26.8%	5.9%

Counties with regents institutions

Metro counties

Rural Opportunity Zone counties