

BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

House Bill 2477

Testimony of Thomas Franzen, CTP, CPFO
Johnson County Treasurer & Finance Director

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on behalf of Johnson County in opposition of HB 2477. Johnson County does not support the amended language that would require the County Treasurer to verify and reject an application for the registration of a vehicle, if the applicant owes delinquent real estate taxes.

The passage of HB 2477 would require County Treasurer's to enhance and/or modify their existing registration process in order to accommodate this additional verification. It would require additional development and programming costs for Counties to create an interface process between their real estate tax collection software and the motor vehicle registration software. This will also add additional complexity to the vehicle registration process which will lead to longer service and wait times for customers. Real estate tax and motor vehicle ownership data are administered separately, and could not reliably be compared for the purposes of this Bill.

Furthermore, there are already clear statutes defining the collection processes for delinquent real estate taxes, including publication notices and tax foreclosure sales. There is no indication that passage of HB 2477 would increase delinquent real estate tax collections. Current collection rates are very high given the statutes that are already in place.

In summary, there are significant detrimental financial, administrative, and service level impacts to Johnson County under this proposed legislation. We ask for your support to not move this legislation forward from committee. Thank you for your consideration.