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Date: February 23, 2015

To: Senate Local Government Committee

From: Larry R. Baer

Legal Counsel

Re: SB 244

Testimony in Support

Thank you for allowing me to appear before you today and present testimony on behalf of the League of Kansas Municipalities and our member cities in support of Senate Bill 244.

Senate Bill 244 would amend current law regarding the budget vote provisions that were adopted last session. The language requires publication within 30 days of the adoption of the budget (current law is silent as to timing). The bill also attempts to clarify some publication requirements, including how publication should be done when a municipality is located in two or more counties. The bill also adds language to 79-2929 regarding publication of the budget hearing notice. This language is similar to the placed in 79-2925b to cover the more than one county situation.

The League supports SB 244 because we believe that our cities are now following this procedure and it does help with the dual county issue. However, we do believe that some technical language changes could be made to help the two provisions to read more consistently.

The League stands in support of SB 244. We ask that you consider it favorably and pass it out of committee.

Thank you. I will stand for questions.