March 6, 2026

Assessment Taxation Committee

RE: SB488 – Property Tax Issue

To Whom It May Concern:

We are in favor of SB488 and a Constitutional Amendment to ban ALL property taxes in Kansas.

My husband and I have lived in Kansas our entire lives and hope to do so through the remainder of our lives; however, as valuations have risen dramatically and taxes have unreasonably risen on our home, we are finding it difficult to stay in Kansas when we retire in the near future.

We purchased our home in 1996 (built in 1990). It is a 918 square foot home in Holcomb, Finney County, Kansas. Just recently, we managed to pay off our mortgage and were very excited by such an accomplishment. However, that excitement diminished immediately when we realized we would still have to set aside approximately $400 a month to pay the annual property taxes. We are basically renting from the State of Kansas now! Our home valuation has increased by 45% just since 2018! By paying property taxes in this manner, we are paying capital gains tax on something with which we have not realized any gain!

Our only options are to either move out of state or "downsize". Given the size of our home, "downsizing" is not an option. The only relief we can see is a consumption charge being implemented in place of property taxes. At least with a consumption surcharge, we can adjust our spending.

Please support the dissolution of personal property taxes and implement a consumption surcharge in its place so we can remain in the State of Kansas.

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