

**House Bill 2172 Veto Message from the Governor**

Many of the organizations requesting tax exemptions in HB 2172 are worthy organizations with important missions; and individually, their requests do not amount to much of a loss in state revenues. However, when added together, the loss in state revenue grows dramatically from \$4.5 million in the first year, to more than \$11 million just a few years from now.

On April 17<sup>th</sup> we learned that state revenues leave a deficit gap of \$328 million, impacting the budgets of critical social service programs. With this in mind, I am concerned that further reducing revenues through tax breaks would negatively impact the budgets of critical services for Kansans.

While the intent of this legislation is good, given the incredible economic challenges and revenue deficits we are facing, we simply are not able to offer these additional tax breaks right now.

Therefore, pursuant to Article 2, Section 14 of the Constitution of the State of Kansas, I veto HB 2172.

Vetoed April 23, 2009

Signed Kathleen Sebelius