

Approved: Feb. 22, 2000
Date

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE TAXATION COMMITTEE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Wagle at 9:00 a.m. on February 10, 2000, in Room 519-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Rep. Jenkins - excused

Committee staff present: Chris Courtwright, Legislative Research Department
April Holman, Legislative Research Department
Don Hayward, Revisor of Statutes
Ann Deitcher, Committee Secretary
Edith Beaty, Taxation Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Mike Taylor, City of Wichita
Freda Culver, Stafford, Kansas
Larry Fischer, DVM
Karl Peterjohn, Kansas Taxpayers Network
Karen France, Kansas Association of Realtors
Don Moler, League of Municipalities
Randy Allen, Kansas Association of Counties

The Chair introduced Shirley Moses, Director of Accounts and Reports, who presented a report to the Committee on Cities and Counties "Truth in Taxation". (Attachment 1).

In answer to a question regarding publication requirements in the Truth in Taxation law, Randy Allen of the Association of Counties explained there were none.

The Chair explained that they would be hearing from both proponents and opponents of **HB 2853** and **HB 2893**. However, she first wanted to introduce Freda Culver of Stafford, Kansas who wished to speak as a proponent of **HB 5031** and **HB 5035**. (Attachment 2).

Asked what the percentage was of her tax increase, Mrs. Culver said it was almost 50%.

HB 2853 - Concerning political subdivision budget expenditures from revenues produced by property tax levies; providing limitations thereon.

HB 2893 - An act relating to property taxation; requiring certain actions relating to the levying thereof.

Appearing as a proponents for both **HB 2853** and **HB 2893** were:

Larry Fischer, a Topeka veterinarian, (Attachment 3);
Karl Peterjohn, Kansas Taxpayers Network, (Attachment 4) and
Karen France, Kansas Association of Realtors, (Attachment 5);

Appearing as opponents for both **HB 2853** and **HB 2893** were:

Don Moler, League of Kansas Municipalities, (Attachments 6 and 7);
Randy Allen, Kansas Association of Counties, (Attachment 8);
Dana Fenton, Johnson County, (Attachment 9) and
Mike Taylor, City of Wichita, (Attachment 10).

In speaking to the Committee, Randy Allen asked how one would expect services to be provided without sufficient revenue. He said he knew no one wanted property taxes, he just had to ask what the alternative would be.

CONTINUATION SHEET

Representative Osborne said that when he goes to his Commissioner he's told to talk to the Appraiser. When he talks to the Appraiser, who's not an elected official, the Appraiser tells him that he wasn't told what to do by the Commission. He felt the Appraiser was being given too much responsibility.

A motion was made by Representative Wilk and seconded by Representative Sharp to amend **HB 2893** to add a line 5, following line 33C to exempt the cost of a demand transfer law from the previous year to this year. The motion carried on a voice vote.

After discussion it was decided to hold **HB 2893** until other possible amendments to the bill could be agreed up.

The meeting adjourned at 10:30a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 14, 2000.



DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION
Division of Accounts and Reports

BILL GRAVES
Governor

DAN STANLEY
Secretary of Administration

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DATE/TIME: February 10, 2000/09:00AM

LOCATION: Statehouse, Room 519-S

SUBJECT: House Taxation Committee
Presentation of Report on Cities and Counties "Truth in Taxation"
Budgeting Provision

PRESENTED BY: Shirley A. Moses, Director

- Attachment A Photo copy of pertinent legislation (1999 SB 45, New Sec. 21)
- Attachment B Copy of Computation To Determine Limit For 2000 Budget form
(Prepared by County/City)
- Attachment C COUNTY Comparison of Tax Levies Report
Sorted by 1999 Actual to Maximum Variance Percent
(Prepared by Accounts & Reports)
- Attachment D CITY Comparison of Tax Levies Report
Sorted by 1999 Actual to Maximum Variance Percent
(Prepared by Accounts & Reports)

SAM:rr

attachments

House Taxation
Date 2/10/00
Attachment # 1-1

Attachment A

1999 Senate Bill 45

[Ch. 154

1999 Session Laws of Kansas

1321

ganized under the laws of the United States, for which an election as an S corporation under subchapter S of the federal internal revenue code is in effect, which accrues to the taxpayer who is a stockholder of such corporation and which is not distributed to the stockholders as dividends of the corporation.

(xv) For all taxable years beginning after December 31, 1999, amounts not exceeding \$2,000 for each designated beneficiary which are contributed to a family postsecondary education savings account established under the Kansas postsecondary education savings program for the purpose of paying the qualified higher education expenses of a designated beneficiary at an institution of postsecondary education. The terms and phrases used in this paragraph shall have the meaning respectively ascribed thereto by the provisions of section 14, and amendments thereto, and the provisions of such section are hereby incorporated by reference for all purposes thereof.

(d) There shall be added to or subtracted from federal adjusted gross income the taxpayer's share, as beneficiary of an estate or trust, of the Kansas fiduciary adjustment determined under K.S.A. 79-32,135, and amendments thereto.

(e) The amount of modifications required to be made under this section by a partner which relates to items of income, gain, loss, deduction or credit of a partnership shall be determined under K.S.A. 79-32,131, and amendments thereto, to the extent that such items affect federal adjusted gross income of the partner.

New Sec. 21. (a) Without adoption of a resolution or ordinance so providing, the governing body of any taxing subdivision shall not approve any appropriation or budget, as the case requires, which may be funded by revenue produced from property taxes, and which provides for funding with such revenue in an amount exceeding that of the next preceding year, except with regard to revenue produced and attributable to the taxation of:

- (1) New improvements to real property;
- (2) increased personal property valuation, other than increased valuation of oil and gas leaseholds and mobile homes;
- (3) property located within added jurisdictional territory; and
- (4) property which has changed in use.

(b) The provisions of this section shall be applicable to all fiscal and budget years commencing on and after the effective date of this act.

(c) The provisions of this section shall not apply to community colleges or unified school districts.

(d) The provisions of this section shall not apply to revenue received from property tax levied for the sole purpose of repayment of the principal of and interest upon bonded indebtedness, temporary notes and no-fund warrants.

Form

Adjustment
for report

COMPUTATION TO DETERMINE LIMIT FOR 2000 BUDGET

Amount of
Levy

1. Total tax levy amount in 1999 budget		+ \$	_____
2. Debt service levy in 1999 budget		- \$	_____
3. Tax levy excluding debt service		\$	_____

1999 Valuation Information for Valuation Adjustments:

4. New improvements		+	_____
5. Increase in personal property: for 1999			
5a. Personal Property 1999	+		_____
5b. Personal property 1998	-		_____
5c. Increase in personal property (5a minus 5b)		+	_____
6. Valuation of annexed territory for 1999:			
6a. Real estate	+		_____
6b. State assessed	+		_____
6c. New improvements	-		_____
6d. Total adjustment		+	_____
7. Valuation of property that has changed in use during 1999:			
7a. Real estate	+		_____
7b. State assessed	+		_____
7c. New improvements	-		_____
7d. Total adjustment		+	_____
8. Total valuation adjustment (Sum of 4, 5c, 6d & 7d)			_____
9. Total estimated July 1, 1999 valuation			_____
10. Total valuation less valuation adjustment (9 minus 8)			_____
11. Factor for increase (8 divided by 10)			_____
12. Amount of increase (11 times 3)		+ \$	_____
13. Maximum tax levy without ordinance or resolution (3 plus 12)		\$	=====

If the 2000 budget includes tax levies, excluding debt service, exceeding the total on line 13, you must adopt a resolution or ordinance to exceed this limit. Attach a copy to the budget.

COUNTY Comparison of Tax Levies
 Sorted by 1999 Actual to Maximum Variance %

Ct.	Name	99 Maximum	Actual Amt - 1999 Levy	1999 Variance		Actual Levy Amount		Dollar % of Change		Resolution Required	Total Mill Levy Rates			Comments
		without Resolution *		Actual over Max. Dollars	%	1998 Levy	1997 Levy	97-98	98-99		1999	1998	1997	
1	Leavenworth County	\$7,657,508	\$9,562,198	\$1,904,690	24.87%	\$8,097,416	\$7,722,089	4.9%	18.1%	Yes	32.124	27.727	28.502	No
2	Saline County	\$6,899,203	\$8,423,489	\$1,524,286	22.09%	\$6,980,630	\$5,854,678	19.2%	20.7%	Yes	23.187	20.488	18.141	Yes
3	McPherson County	\$5,894,044	\$7,141,937	\$1,247,893	21.17%	\$6,051,641	\$5,711,390	6.0%	18.0%	Yes	32.528	29.421	28.003	No
4	Johnson County	\$64,900,016	\$78,033,835	\$13,133,819	20.24%	\$61,509,532	\$58,331,532	5.4%	26.9%	Yes	16.112	14.345	15.305	Yes
5	Elk County	\$1,121,912	\$1,321,055	\$199,143	17.75%	\$1,114,594	\$1,282,133	(13.1%)	18.5%	Yes	66.395	55.802	63.880	No
6	Marion County	\$3,350,244	\$3,925,641	\$575,397	17.17%	\$3,272,954	\$2,916,988	12.2%	19.9%	Yes	51.110	44.561	40.510	No
7	Sherman County	\$2,376,594	\$2,768,914	\$392,320	16.51%	\$2,413,083	\$2,330,570	3.5%	14.7%	Yes	51.969	47.178	46.904	No
8	Neosho County	\$2,348,306	\$2,693,698	\$345,392	14.71%	\$2,293,944	\$2,316,594	(1.0%)	17.4%	Yes	38.896	33.982	34.077	No
9	Meade County	\$2,371,845	\$2,712,635	\$340,790	14.37%	\$2,365,317	\$2,421,479	(2.3%)	14.7%	Yes	36.845	31.536	31.728	No
10	Comanche County	\$1,529,487	\$1,742,748	\$213,261	13.94%	\$1,529,487	\$1,533,478	(0.3%)	13.9%	Yes	76.560	60.906	61.917	No
11	Osage County	\$2,181,181	\$2,456,632	\$275,451	12.63%	\$2,168,325	\$1,798,858	20.5%	13.3%	Yes	28.791	26.312	23.374	Yes
12	Haskell County	\$3,047,689	\$3,419,963	\$372,274	12.21%	\$3,019,987	\$3,015,601	0.1%	13.2%	Yes	26.608	19.278	18.240	Yes
13	Lincoln County	\$1,903,221	\$2,128,990	\$225,769	11.86%	\$1,918,461	\$1,770,668	8.3%	11.0%	Yes	86.370	80.360	75.703	Yes
14	Jewell County	\$2,205,715	\$2,465,967	\$260,252	11.80%	\$2,167,275	\$2,104,605	3.0%	13.8%	Yes	83.215	75.852	76.615	No
15	Ottawa County	\$2,150,155	\$2,390,281	\$240,126	11.17%	\$2,121,054	\$2,133,203	(0.6%)	12.7%	Yes	58.035	53.422	55.227	No
16	Butler County	\$8,643,184	\$9,474,254	\$831,070	9.62%	\$8,421,553	\$8,191,498	2.8%	12.5%	Yes	30.868	28.983	29.248	No
17	Dickinson County	\$3,355,852	\$3,651,085	\$295,233	8.80%	\$3,243,344	\$3,168,925	2.3%	12.6%	Yes	33.923	32.088	32.191	No
18	Cherokee County	\$3,296,366	\$3,571,390	\$275,024	8.34%	\$3,224,635	\$3,101,286	4.0%	10.8%	Yes	32.006	29.962	32.393	No
19	Franklin County	\$6,323,929	\$6,851,346	\$527,417	8.34%	\$6,219,607	\$5,520,513	12.7%	10.2%	Yes	53.643	50.586	45.823	No
20	Brown County	\$2,208,905	\$2,391,112	\$182,207	8.25%	\$2,349,471	\$2,278,676	3.1%	1.8%	Yes	37.203	38.222	38.609	No
21	Bourbon County	\$2,680,402	\$2,900,717	\$220,315	8.22%	\$2,600,542	\$2,558,398	1.6%	11.5%	Yes	45.938	41.986	42.440	No
22	Kingman County	\$2,853,185	\$3,081,850	\$228,665	8.01%	\$2,906,364	\$2,513,649	15.6%	6.0%	Yes	45.770	40.888	35.860	No
23	Linn County	\$4,348,443	\$4,678,341	\$329,898	7.59%	\$4,302,617	\$4,255,851	1.1%	8.7%	Yes	30.401	29.144	29.174	No
24	Mitchell County	\$1,900,402	\$2,044,222	\$143,820	7.57%	\$1,865,616	\$1,666,972	11.9%	9.6%	Yes	47.589	45.553	43.286	No
25	Pratt County	\$3,475,862	\$3,731,094	\$255,232	7.34%	\$3,416,641	\$3,175,872	7.6%	9.2%	Yes	50.077	45.297	43.768	Yes
26	Pottawatomie County	\$7,217,179	\$7,745,154	\$527,975	7.32%	\$7,236,677	\$7,519,433	(3.8%)	7.0%	Yes	23.775	23.823	24.343	No
27	Scott County	\$1,750,479	\$1,876,022	\$125,543	7.17%	\$1,749,266	\$1,772,382	(1.3%)	7.2%	Yes	36.236	34.652	34.052	No

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COUNTY Comparison of Tax Levies
 Sorted by 1999 Actual to Maximum Variance %

Ct.	Name	99 Maximum	Actual Amt -	1999 Variance		Dollar				Resolution	Total Mill Levy Rates			Comments
		without		1999 Levy	Actual over Max.	%	Actual Levy Amount	% of Change	97-98		98-99	Required	1999	
		Resolution *		Dollars	%	1998 Levy	1997 Levy							
28	Greeley County	\$2,110,766	\$2,257,899	\$147,133	6.97%	\$2,105,457	\$2,029,653	3.7%	7.2%	Yes	92.207	78.570	75.737	Yes
29	Wichita County	\$1,847,735	\$1,974,818	\$127,083	6.88%	\$1,819,444	\$1,862,005	(2.3%)	8.5%	Yes	80.751	75.285	72.947	No
30	Lyon County	\$7,567,275	\$8,081,195	\$513,920	6.79%	\$7,378,379	\$7,016,768	5.2%	9.5%	Yes	47.773	45.788	43.998	No
31	Ford County	\$6,063,824	\$6,475,323	\$411,499	6.79%	\$6,021,498	\$6,185,773	(2.7%)	7.5%	Yes	35.704	34.309	35.999	No
32	Cowley County	\$4,315,135	\$4,604,775	\$289,640	6.71%	\$4,252,197	\$3,906,463	8.9%	8.3%	Yes	28.293	27.026	26.192	No
33	Republic County	\$2,874,623	\$3,049,405	\$174,782	6.08%	\$2,791,749	\$2,965,105	(5.8%)	9.2%	Yes	74.221	71.972	77.576	No
34	Pawnee County	\$2,766,282	\$2,927,356	\$161,074	5.82%	\$2,682,923	\$2,532,477	5.9%	9.1%	Yes	63.723	57.808	56.137	No
35	Woodson County	\$1,605,467	\$1,696,494	\$91,027	5.67%	\$1,547,192	\$1,474,978	4.9%	9.6%	Yes	69.853	62.639	57.754	No
36	Gray County	\$2,729,837	\$2,872,327	\$142,490	5.22%	\$2,697,364	\$2,575,816	4.7%	6.5%	Yes	56.308	54.889	53.404	No
37	Stanton County	\$4,473,330	\$4,703,209	\$229,879	5.14%	\$4,436,165	\$4,311,078	2.9%	6.0%	Yes	62.907	47.190	40.810	No
38	Rawlins County	\$1,857,820	\$1,948,799	\$90,979	4.90%	\$1,846,390	\$1,811,928	1.9%	5.5%	Yes	70.286	67.390	66.543	No
39	Stafford County	\$2,289,847	\$2,401,768	\$111,921	4.89%	\$2,256,671	\$2,261,822	(0.2%)	6.4%	Yes	55.348	48.791	45.084	No
40	Jackson County	\$2,846,395	\$2,984,502	\$138,107	4.85%	\$2,846,210	\$2,744,832	3.7%	4.9%	Yes	51.263	51.361	54.480	No
41	Atchison County	\$3,227,673	\$3,380,846	\$153,173	4.75%	\$3,136,613	\$3,107,850	0.9%	7.8%	Yes	41.758	41.433	41.628	No
42	Shawnee County	\$36,963,707	\$38,606,290	\$1,642,583	4.44%	\$36,417,479	\$35,442,542	2.8%	6.0%	Yes	37.014	36.958	37.193	Yes
43	Barton County	\$4,599,944	\$4,792,818	\$192,874	4.19%	\$4,514,821	\$4,166,839	8.4%	6.2%	Yes	33.414	30.994	27.500	Yes
44	Norton County	\$2,442,373	\$2,541,075	\$98,702	4.04%	\$2,594,550	\$2,251,666	15.2%	(2.1%)	Yes	77.981	84.663	74.764	No
45	Riley County	\$7,875,157	\$8,159,109	\$283,952	3.61%	\$7,588,101	\$7,425,028	2.2%	7.5%	Yes	34.488	34.633	34.015	No
46	Morton County	\$4,598,023	\$4,749,637	\$151,614	3.30%	\$4,588,997	\$4,840,497	(5.2%)	3.5%	Yes	39.613	30.626	30.217	No
47	Marshall County	\$3,023,473	\$3,120,760	\$97,287	3.22%	\$2,981,348	\$2,766,576	7.8%	4.7%	Yes	45.286	44.576	44.800	Yes
48	Harper County	\$3,016,092	\$3,107,884	\$91,792	3.04%	\$3,002,113	\$3,001,992	0.0%	3.5%	Yes	68.918	64.478	63.189	No
49	Finney County	\$10,460,150	\$10,778,123	\$317,973	3.04%	\$10,098,182	\$10,368,931	(2.6%)	6.7%	Yes	32.080	28.220	28.770	No
50	Wilson County	\$3,014,000	\$3,104,380	\$90,380	3.00%	\$2,978,911	\$2,890,819	3.0%	4.2%	Yes	62.260	59.130	57.420	No
51	Wyandotte County	\$18,041,242	\$18,551,012	\$509,770	2.83%	\$18,286,450	\$18,272,560	0.1%	1.4%	Yes	27.506	25.725	27.526	No
52	Coffey County	\$13,742,938	\$14,108,458	\$365,520	2.66%	\$14,278,068	\$13,790,245	3.5%	(1.2%)	Yes	26.726	27.210	25.883	No
53	Allen County	\$2,288,895	\$2,333,606	\$44,711	1.95%	\$2,274,610	\$2,188,571	3.9%	2.6%	Yes	36.646	35.569	34.628	No
54	Thomas County	\$1,872,325	\$1,908,801	\$36,476	1.95%	\$1,826,493	\$1,821,093	0.3%	4.5%	Yes	29.977	28.330	27.271	Yes

COUNTY Comparison of Tax Levies
 Sorted by 1999 Actual to Maximum Variance %

Ct.	Name	99 Maximum	Actual Amt - 1999 Levy	1999 Variance		Actual Levy Amount		Dollar		Resolution Required	Total Mill Levy Rates			Comments
		without Resolution *		Dollars	%	1998 Levy	1997 Levy	% of Change 97-98	98-99		1999	1998	1997	
55	Clark County	\$1,977,254	\$2,014,551	\$37,297	1.89%	\$1,972,663	\$1,713,854	15.1%	2.1%	Yes	68.371	64.327	59.445	Yes
56	Cloud County	\$2,860,310	\$2,908,562	\$48,252	1.69%	\$2,841,202	\$2,716,936	4.6%	2.4%	Yes	52.567	53.788	54.436	Yes
57	Rush County	\$2,371,190	\$2,408,051	\$36,861	1.55%	\$2,360,353	\$2,517,190	(6.2%)	2.0%	Yes	86.758	82.043	79.276	No
58	Clay County	\$2,906,064	\$2,934,240	\$28,176	0.97%	\$2,729,562	\$2,369,067	15.2%	7.5%	Yes	57.986	56.775	54.650	No
59	Ellsworth County	\$3,186,294	\$3,205,834	\$19,540	0.61%	\$3,018,427	\$2,846,281	6.0%	6.2%	Yes	59.298	54.063	49.515	No
60	Geary County	\$4,937,858	\$4,945,409	\$7,551	0.15%	\$4,808,866	\$4,471,610	7.5%	2.8%	Yes	49.470	50.223	45.705	No
61	Osborne County	\$1,490,542	\$1,491,687	\$1,145	0.08%	\$1,472,435	\$1,463,473	0.6%	1.3%	Yes	54.818	53.894	56.214	No
62	Harvey County	\$5,184,463	\$5,184,472	\$9	0.00%	\$5,038,230	\$4,996,325	0.8%	2.9%	Yes	29.204	30.308	30.618	No
63	Morris County	\$2,000,961	\$2,000,961	\$0	0.00%	\$2,004,648	\$1,989,540	0.8%	(0.2%)	No	48.390	48.984	50.854	No
64	Wallace County	\$1,153,323	\$1,153,323	\$0	0.00%	\$1,121,526	\$1,069,112	4.9%	2.8%	No	53.810	49.386	46.874	No
65	Chautauqua County	\$1,389,656	\$1,389,652	(\$4)	(0.00%)	\$1,384,994	\$1,454,602	(4.8%)	0.3%	No	69.065	67.312	66.697	No
66	Cheyenne County	\$1,171,608	\$1,171,588	(\$20)	(0.00%)	\$1,167,179	\$1,431,303	(18.5%)	0.4%	No	36.291	38.640	48.680	No
67	Washington County	\$2,747,101	\$2,747,033	(\$68)	(0.00%)	\$2,727,902	\$2,712,964	0.6%	0.7%	No	58.950	60.338	60.752	No
68	Nemaha County	\$2,626,222	\$2,625,647	(\$575)	(0.02%)	\$2,580,487	\$2,505,545	3.0%	1.8%	No	40.565	41.270	40.913	No
69	Ellis County	\$5,583,336	\$5,580,656	(\$2,680)	(0.05%)	\$5,495,768	\$5,327,644	3.2%	1.5%	No	33.360	32.214	31.009	No
70	Smith County	\$2,292,522	\$2,290,687	(\$1,835)	(0.08%)	\$2,160,079	\$2,097,173	3.0%	6.0%	No	72.632	70.489	71.401	No
71	Wabaunsee County	\$1,888,498	\$1,885,714	(\$2,784)	(0.15%)	\$1,716,832	\$1,716,832	0.0%	9.8%	No	42.293	39.640	37.407	No
72	Miami County	\$9,108,916	\$9,094,505	(\$14,411)	(0.16%)	\$8,610,239	\$6,870,376	25.3%	5.6%	No	45.908	47.060	41.255	No
73	Edwards County	\$1,907,800	\$1,902,644	(\$5,156)	(0.27%)	\$1,834,216	\$2,180,667	(15.9%)	3.7%	No	56.097	53.070	61.949	No
74	Russell County	\$3,236,400	\$3,224,216	(\$12,184)	(0.38%)	\$3,217,602	\$3,445,543	(6.6%)	0.2%	No	74.718	65.015	60.684	No
75	Logan County	\$1,364,415	\$1,358,316	(\$6,099)	(0.45%)	\$1,267,506	\$1,269,496	(0.2%)	7.2%	No	48.913	43.715	43.682	No
76	Douglas County	\$16,653,751	\$16,559,543	(\$94,208)	(0.57%)	\$15,975,131	\$14,275,981	11.9%	3.7%	No	24.618	25.836	24.663	No
77	Rice County	\$3,539,978	\$3,513,650	(\$26,328)	(0.74%)	\$3,412,539	\$3,307,017	3.2%	3.0%	No	46.910	46.004	43.933	No
78	Doniphan County	\$1,596,250	\$1,582,907	(\$13,343)	(0.84%)	\$1,605,988	\$1,563,741	2.7%	(1.4%)	No	33.056	35.537	35.153	No
79	Sumner County	\$5,969,581	\$5,919,445	(\$50,136)	(0.84%)	\$5,920,283	\$6,079,144	(2.6%)	(0.0%)	No	47.715	47.758	50.451	No
80	Labette County	\$3,019,027	\$2,991,708	(\$27,319)	(0.90%)	\$2,982,005	\$3,062,508	(2.6%)	0.3%	No	32.152	32.981	35.053	No
81	Sedgwick County	\$75,423,049	\$74,602,899	(\$820,150)	(1.09%)	\$72,678,618	\$70,444,841	3.2%	2.6%	No	28.671	29.638	30.196	No

Source: County Budgets
 Prepared 02/07/2000

* Includes 1999 debt service levy

COUNTY Comparison of Tax Levies
 Sorted by 1999 Actual to Maximum Variance %

Ct.	Name	99 Maximum	Actual Amt - 1999 Levy	1999 Variance		Actual Levy Amount		Dollar % of Change		Resolution Required	Total Mill Levy Rates			Comments
		without Resolution *		Dollars	%	1998 Levy	1997 Levy	97-98	98-99		1999	1998	1997	
82	Montgomery County	\$6,481,355	\$6,401,700	(\$79,655)	(1.23%)	\$6,248,583	\$5,876,945	6.3%	2.5%	No	34.929	35.815	33.903	No
83	Barber County	\$2,266,491	\$2,233,653	(\$32,838)	(1.45%)	\$2,160,622	\$2,000,660	8.0%	3.4%	No	50.021	45.457	41.894	No
84	Ness County	\$1,728,052	\$1,701,297	(\$26,755)	(1.55%)	\$1,707,295	\$1,743,468	(2.1%)	(0.4%)	No	54.410	46.539	39.463	No
85	Phillips County	\$2,563,288	\$2,520,602	(\$42,686)	(1.67%)	\$2,543,696	\$2,522,363	0.8%	(0.9%)	No	66.954	66.186	62.637	No
86	Hamilton County	\$3,912,389	\$3,830,616	(\$81,773)	(2.09%)	\$3,831,432	\$3,459,602	10.7%	(0.0%)	No	82.392	71.413	67.607	No
87	Lane County	\$1,862,176	\$1,816,209	(\$45,967)	(2.47%)	\$1,596,323	\$1,577,513	1.2%	13.8%	No	87.621	73.343	63.605	No
88	Chase County	\$1,606,136	\$1,559,129	(\$47,007)	(2.93%)	\$1,598,610	\$1,556,938	2.7%	(2.5%)	No	54.334	55.415	56.109	No
89	Gove County	\$1,488,342	\$1,444,431	(\$43,911)	(2.95%)	\$1,492,550	\$1,641,655	(9.1%)	(3.2%)	No	48.775	49.203	51.600	No
90	Hodgeman County	\$2,162,516	\$2,095,588	(\$66,928)	(3.09%)	\$2,148,068	\$2,224,650	(3.4%)	(2.4%)	No	99.363	96.099	97.036	No
91	Kearny County	\$6,075,094	\$5,866,807	(\$208,287)	(3.43%)	\$5,271,628	\$5,112,764	3.1%	11.3%	No	31.384	22.862	20.138	No
92	Stevens County	\$8,922,659	\$8,574,952	(\$347,707)	(3.90%)	\$8,973,835	\$8,428,809	6.5%	(4.4%)	No	27.341	21.947	20.920	No
93	Sheridan County	\$2,129,391	\$2,033,139	(\$96,252)	(4.52%)	\$2,097,991	\$2,103,765	(0.3%)	(3.1%)	No	73.988	77.182	72.789	No
94	Crawford County	\$6,002,382	\$5,715,937	(\$286,445)	(4.77%)	\$5,739,271	\$5,739,394	(0.0%)	(0.4%)	No	34.615	35.780	37.571	No
95	Seward County	\$5,645,706	\$5,374,688	(\$271,018)	(4.80%)	\$5,613,853	\$5,612,631	0.0%	(4.3%)	No	28.004	27.897	27.072	No
96	Trego County	\$2,250,318	\$2,125,052	(\$125,266)	(5.57%)	\$2,226,861	\$2,201,974	1.1%	(4.6%)	No	75.052	76.298	69.471	No
97	Jefferson County	\$6,216,933	\$5,863,751	(\$353,182)	(5.68%)	\$5,715,582	\$5,454,704	4.8%	2.6%	No	60.925	61.960	61.821	No
98	Grant County	\$10,084,176	\$9,496,174	(\$588,002)	(5.83%)	\$9,870,900	\$9,868,210	0.0%	(3.8%)	No	33.223	28.442	27.591	No
99	Graham County	\$2,167,651	\$2,040,718	(\$126,933)	(5.86%)	\$2,321,378	\$2,797,231	(17.0%)	(12.1%)	No	85.573	86.146	88.481	No
100	Reno County	\$9,885,972	\$9,301,968	(\$584,004)	(5.91%)	\$9,023,537	\$7,820,554	15.4%	3.1%	No	24.617	24.835	22.020	No
101	Greenwood County	\$2,669,493	\$2,462,002	(\$207,491)	(7.77%)	\$2,667,633	\$2,584,744	3.2%	(7.7%)	No	49.573	52.329	49.372	No
102	Anderson County	\$3,034,170	\$2,762,922	(\$271,248)	(8.94%)	\$2,803,161	\$2,633,961	6.4%	(1.4%)	No	55.340	57.444	54.345	No
103	Kiowa County	\$2,218,450	\$2,016,407	(\$202,043)	(9.11%)	\$2,218,450	\$2,632,365	(15.7%)	(9.1%)	No	44.596	44.430	51.068	No
104	Decatur County	\$2,011,257	\$1,747,198	(\$264,059)	(13.13%)	\$1,705,883	\$1,565,120	9.0%	2.4%	No	60.370	62.336	56.237	No
105	Rooks County	\$2,749,184	\$2,374,041	(\$375,143)	(13.65%)	\$2,709,374	\$3,000,354	(9.7%)	(12.4%)	No	70.411	71.926	68.307	No
Total Tax Levies		\$580,225,586	\$606,452,120	\$26,226,534		\$566,200,204	\$547,040,367	3.5%	7.1%					

County Comments

Barton County

\$219,000 is an increase in the adult detention budget for housing prisoners in other county jails. If the tax lid was still in effect, the levies would have exceeded the tax lid by \$1,659.

Clark County

The three most important reasons for the increase are purchase of equipment for the landfill and road and bridge department, a building to house the ambulances for EMS, and two vehicles for the sheriff department.

Cloud County

The major increases are in areas that the county commission has no control: mental health, mental retardation, services for elderly, conservation commission, appraiser's costs, and community college out-district tuition. In addition, 2000 is a major election year with the possibility of a presidential primary so the election budget is increased.

Greeley County

The voters approved a hospital and long-term care remodeling project and the construction of a new swimming pool.

Haskell County

The increase is due to the depleted cash carryover and new funds for the appraiser's cost and solid waste functions.

Johnson County

This is the first budget increase since 1994. The increase was necessary to maintain reserve levels, minimize the issuance of new debt, infrastructure improvements, and maintain existing services. For FY 1996 to FY 1999, the total mill levy was decreased to offset valuation increases due to reappraisal.

Lincoln County

The increase resulted from a two mill economic development levy approved by the voters, increase in services for the ambulance service, and an increase in road and bridge.

Marshall County

Expenses have increased in funds that were previously outside the tax lid and the commission has no control over these increases. If the tax lid had been in effect, the 2000 budget would have been \$12,500 under the tax lid limit. The 1999 budget was \$58,000 under the tax lid limit.

Osage County

The reason for the mill levy increase is salary increases. Salary increases since the tax lid imposed in 1989 have been modest and have not kept up with inflation creating tremendous turnover in personnel. This is an initial step in getting salaries in line with comparable counties.

Pratt County

The county has been using reserve balances and the carryover has been declining. The expenditures for the 2000 budget are less than the 1999 budget. The county's valuation has been declining also.

Saline County

The budget increase was primarily due to 1) operations costs associated with new personnel at the county jail, 2) efforts to maintain employee wages at a level commensurate with the market place, and 3) an increase to finance the budget and rebuild cash reserves in the General Fund necessitated by a heavy reliance upon cash reserves to finance the 1999 budget.

Shawnee County

The increase in tax dollars was necessary to provide adequate funding for the judicial branch, detention centers, consolidated emergency communications, and health agency.

Thomas County

The increase in tax levy is due to the loss of sales tax revenue and an increase in employee benefit costs.

CITY Comparison of Tax Levies
 Sorted by 1999 Actual to Maximum Variance %

6-1

Ct.	Name	99 Maximum	1999 Variance		Actual Levy Amount		Dollar		Ordinance Required	Total Mill Levy Rates			Comments	
		without Resolution *	Actual Amount- 1999 Levy	Actual over Max. Dollars	%	1998 Levy	1997 Levy	% of Change 97-98		98-99	1999	1998		1997
1	Scott City	\$722,365	\$1,047,265	\$324,900	44.98%	\$722,365	\$607,636	18.9%	45.0%	Yes	68.234	49.295	43.966	No
2	Concordia	\$755,715	\$1,075,275	\$319,560	42.29%	\$939,589	\$902,362	4.1%	14.4%	Yes	56.050	49.874	50.532	No
3	Eudora	\$287,185	\$382,571	\$95,386	33.21%	\$270,251	\$212,781	27.0%	41.6%	Yes	18.473	14.426	11.846	No
4	Bonner Springs	\$1,201,903	\$1,582,134	\$380,231	31.64%	\$1,546,549	\$1,450,788	6.6%	2.3%	Yes	45.588	46.092	46.165	No
5	Wamego	\$550,945	\$692,063	\$141,118	25.61%	\$554,452	\$418,861	32.4%	24.8%	Yes	39.777	33.308	28.093	No
6	Beloit	\$605,685	\$754,902	\$149,217	24.64%	\$709,812	\$629,172	12.8%	6.4%	Yes	48.604	47.609	47.162	No
7	Anthony	\$425,094	\$528,935	\$103,841	24.43%	\$441,627	\$440,106	0.3%	19.8%	Yes	75.503	64.983	66.846	No
8	Edwardsville	\$697,782	\$863,996	\$166,214	23.82%	\$790,212	\$682,289	15.8%	9.3%	Yes	42.990	40.072	36.925	No
9	Fort Scott	\$1,002,891	\$1,229,897	\$227,006	22.64%	\$1,056,227	\$1,059,453	(0.3%)	16.4%	Yes	41.001	35.889	36.859	No
10	Lyons	\$410,603	\$501,547	\$90,944	22.15%	\$402,567	\$383,739	4.9%	24.6%	Yes	45.165	38.370	39.274	No
11	Valley Center	\$560,521	\$660,584	\$100,063	17.85%	\$650,370	\$620,489	4.8%	1.6%	Yes	35.683	38.485	38.637	No
12	Abilene	\$704,685	\$820,240	\$115,555	16.40%	\$666,295	\$623,971	6.8%	23.1%	Yes	24.578	22.369	22.023	No
13	Lenexa	\$12,984,422	\$14,426,529	\$1,442,107	11.11%	\$13,220,955	\$12,761,280	3.6%	9.1%	Yes	23.152	23.979	24.783	No
14	Lawrence	\$10,938,672	\$12,144,167	\$1,205,495	11.02%	\$10,377,742	\$9,557,471	8.6%	17.0%	Yes	24.353	22.596	22.674	No
15	Tonganoxie	\$395,876	\$435,876	\$40,000	10.10%	\$383,938	\$355,605	8.0%	13.5%	Yes	33.712	31.502	30.708	No
16	Fairway	\$547,170	\$600,782	\$53,612	9.80%	\$540,275	\$547,446	(1.3%)	11.2%	Yes	12.412	12.601	13.074	No
17	Atchison	\$2,312,461	\$2,531,930	\$219,469	9.49%	\$2,353,337	\$2,170,294	8.4%	7.6%	Yes	61.005	61.599	57.644	No
18	Norton	\$416,628	\$454,674	\$38,046	9.13%	\$440,065	\$431,747	1.9%	3.3%	Yes	47.198	48.544	49.179	No
19	Leavenworth	\$5,998,434	\$6,518,860	\$520,426	8.68%	\$5,970,370	\$5,692,134	4.9%	9.2%	Yes	51.183	48.414	47.407	No
20	Cherryvale	\$274,665	\$297,973	\$23,308	8.49%	\$262,665	\$252,252	4.1%	13.4%	Yes	48.933	48.787	47.327	No
21	Belleville	\$461,078	\$497,837	\$36,759	7.97%	\$439,112	\$391,111	12.3%	13.4%	Yes	61.314	57.955	53.928	No
22	Mission Hills	\$1,660,056	\$1,784,934	\$124,878	7.52%	\$1,637,298	\$1,616,555	1.3%	9.0%	Yes	20.001	20.557	20.496	No
23	Park City	\$558,649	\$600,373	\$41,724	7.47%	\$522,435	\$550,536	(5.1%)	14.9%	Yes	30.633	30.267	30.006	No
24	Parsons	\$1,548,154	\$1,661,067	\$112,913	7.29%	\$1,566,132	\$1,509,712	3.7%	6.1%	Yes	42.452	41.755	41.069	No
25	Russell	\$749,278	\$800,788	\$51,510	6.87%	\$745,398	\$699,817	6.5%	7.4%	Yes	47.740	44.550	42.967	No
26	Mission	\$483,708	\$515,853	\$32,145	6.65%	\$474,400	\$436,289	8.7%	8.7%	Yes	5.104	5.118	5.122	No

CITY Comparison of Tax Levies
 Sorted by 1999 Actual to Maximum Variance %

1-10

Ct.	Name	99 Maximum	Actual Amount- 1999 Levy	1999 Variance		Actual Levy Amount		Dollar % of Change		Ordinance Required	Total Mill Levy Rates			Comments
		without Resolution *		Actual over Max.	Dollars	%	1998 Levy	1997 Levy	97-98		98-99	1999	1998	
27	Pratt	\$844,139	\$897,369	\$53,230	6.31%	\$834,831	\$778,633	7.2%	7.5%	Yes	36.531	34.531	33.523	No
28	Holton	\$495,149	\$525,620	\$30,471	6.15%	\$438,194	\$405,606	8.0%	20.0%	Yes	39.840	33.840	33.764	Yes
29	Hays	\$3,417,548	\$3,623,347	\$205,799	6.02%	\$3,342,133	\$3,264,682	2.4%	8.4%	Yes	32.062	30.813	31.843	No
30	Clay Center	\$708,919	\$750,876	\$41,957	5.92%	\$599,653	\$585,797	2.4%	25.2%	Yes	45.895	39.818	40.589	No
31	Gardner	\$905,149	\$957,715	\$52,566	5.81%	\$764,015	\$639,675	19.4%	25.4%	Yes	23.824	23.938	24.157	No
32	Mulvane	\$764,914	\$808,593	\$43,679	5.71%	\$770,704	\$739,876	4.2%	4.9%	Yes	44.895	44.925	44.923	No
33	Garden City	\$3,355,282	\$3,541,735	\$186,453	5.56%	\$3,104,426	\$2,822,468	10.0%	14.1%	Yes	31.260	29.640	29.500	No
34	Baldwin City	\$444,088	\$467,912	\$23,824	5.36%	\$370,581	\$367,948	0.7%	26.3%	Yes	35.051	31.304	33.853	No
35	Dodge City	\$4,019,857	\$4,231,065	\$211,208	5.25%	\$3,988,366	\$3,858,521	3.4%	6.1%	Yes	41.693	40.588	40.591	No
36	Bel Aire	\$264,172	\$277,530	\$13,358	5.06%	\$241,256	\$217,645	10.8%	15.0%	Yes	11.567	12.463	11.576	No
37	Newton	\$3,424,741	\$3,588,164	\$163,423	4.77%	\$3,414,934	\$3,497,213	(2.4%)	5.1%	Yes	49.248	49.369	52.167	No
38	Hiawatha	\$643,026	\$673,591	\$30,565	4.75%	\$707,095	\$654,307	8.1%	(4.7%)	Yes	45.620	49.994	49.158	No
39	Independence	\$1,706,987	\$1,780,211	\$73,224	4.29%	\$1,710,464	\$1,660,742	3.0%	4.1%	Yes	40.050	40.145	40.199	No
40	Columbus	\$322,618	\$335,573	\$12,955	4.02%	\$317,495	\$336,955	(5.8%)	5.7%	Yes	21.466	21.455	23.294	No
41	Hutchinson	\$5,520,197	\$5,727,397	\$207,200	3.75%	\$5,517,476	\$6,454,361	(14.5%)	3.8%	Yes	31.653	31.758	38.582	No
42	Pittsburg	\$3,190,377	\$3,302,862	\$112,485	3.53%	\$2,981,857	\$2,839,958	5.0%	10.8%	Yes	40.116	38.079	38.137	No
43	Liberal	\$2,536,900	\$2,620,467	\$83,567	3.29%	\$2,416,850	\$2,315,980	4.4%	8.4%	Yes	29.456	29.674	29.164	No
44	Wellington	\$1,334,899	\$1,373,652	\$38,753	2.90%	\$1,371,184	\$1,333,300	2.8%	0.2%	Yes	45.418	46.942	47.126	No
45	McPherson	\$3,051,545	\$3,139,862	\$88,317	2.89%	\$3,217,837	\$2,847,214	13.0%	(2.4%)	Yes	45.457	50.704	44.586	No
46	Medicine Lodge	\$363,824	\$372,151	\$8,327	2.29%	\$359,301	\$364,560	(1.4%)	3.6%	Yes	59.154	57.043	59.872	No
47	Arkansas City	\$2,231,099	\$2,273,635	\$42,536	1.91%	\$2,179,911	\$2,188,775	(0.4%)	4.3%	Yes	65.085	65.185	65.395	No
48	Shawnee	\$8,035,785	\$8,186,790	\$151,005	1.88%	\$7,197,273	\$6,247,326	15.2%	13.7%	Yes	22.092	22.706	22.815	No
49	Paola	\$1,202,323	\$1,223,428	\$21,105	1.76%	\$1,077,613	\$1,058,550	1.8%	13.5%	Yes	42.533	42.811	45.097	No
50	Wichita	\$58,861,332	\$59,640,740	\$779,408	1.32%	\$54,978,750	\$52,357,401	5.0%	8.5%	Yes	31.406	31.253	31.225	Yes
51	Iola	\$594,567	\$600,809	\$6,242	1.05%	\$590,757	\$581,351	1.6%	1.7%	Yes	28.957	28.946	28.697	No
52	Lindsborg	\$403,005	\$407,205	\$4,200	1.04%	\$376,750	\$390,797	(3.6%)	8.1%	Yes	30.043	30.466	31.157	No

CITY Comparison of Tax Levies
 Sorted by 1999 Actual to Maximum Variance %

Ct.	Name	99 Maximum	Actual Amount- 1999 Levy	1999 Variance		Actual Levy Amount		Dollar % of Change		Ordinance Required	Total Mill Levy Rates			Comments
		without Resolution *		Actual over Max.	Dollars	%	1998 Levy	1997 Levy	97-98		98-99	1999	1998	
53	Ottawa	\$2,045,476	\$2,061,182	\$15,706	0.77%	\$1,913,363	\$1,890,438	1.2%	7.7%	Yes	43.373	42.886	44.426	No
54	Larned	\$977,694	\$981,734	\$4,040	0.41%	\$971,313	\$1,012,687	(4.1%)	1.1%	Yes	77.209	77.163	81.947	No
55	Baxter Springs	\$446,398	\$446,398	\$0	0.00%	\$400,348	\$378,312	5.8%	11.5%	No	25.355	23.771	23.118	No
56	Coffeyville	\$1,553,654	\$1,553,654	\$0	0.00%	\$1,420,884	\$1,390,656	2.2%	9.3%	No	39.631	41.780	41.964	No
57	Eureka	\$411,020	\$411,020	\$0	0.00%	\$428,972	\$434,893	(1.4%)	(4.2%)	No	48.931	51.123	51.438	No
58	Galena	\$255,589	\$255,589	\$0	0.00%	\$243,788	\$239,822	1.7%	4.8%	No	31.118	31.465	33.513	No
59	Hoisington	\$399,801	\$399,801	\$0	0.00%	\$393,340	\$350,202	12.3%	1.6%	No	59.348	59.303	56.838	No
60	Lansing	\$733,305	\$733,305	\$0	0.00%	\$704,064	\$649,070	8.5%	4.2%	No	23.044	24.230	23.958	No
61	Burlington	\$315,628	\$315,626	(\$2)	(0.00%)	\$299,799	\$300,132	(0.1%)	5.3%	No	31.764	31.672	33.125	No
62	Olathe	\$16,970,530	\$16,968,250	(\$2,280)	(0.01%)	\$15,232,041	\$12,502,966	21.8%	11.4%	No	25.134	25.054	25.013	No
63	Frontenac	\$261,822	\$261,774	(\$48)	(0.02%)	\$248,207	\$212,696	16.7%	5.5%	No	21.926	21.702	19.573	No
64	Topeka	\$23,389,461	\$23,384,974	(\$4,487)	(0.02%)	\$22,008,726	\$21,864,618	0.7%	6.3%	No	31.785	31.671	32.588	No
65	Marysville	\$809,342	\$809,167	(\$175)	(0.02%)	\$677,142	\$679,435	(0.3%)	19.5%	No	51.095	52.533	52.702	Yes
66	Osawatomic	\$581,583	\$581,362	(\$221)	(0.04%)	\$572,426	\$507,813	12.7%	1.6%	No	44.843	45.811	43.288	No
67	Rose Hill	\$484,049	\$483,650	(\$399)	(0.08%)	\$456,502	\$397,095	15.0%	5.9%	No	39.558	38.890	38.839	No
68	Merriam	\$2,369,647	\$2,362,757	(\$6,890)	(0.29%)	\$2,054,872	\$2,006,001	2.4%	15.0%	No	18.067	18.188	19.890	No
69	Neodesha	\$221,555	\$220,719	(\$836)	(0.38%)	\$218,561	\$220,107	(0.7%)	1.0%	No	33.968	34.022	35.028	No
70	Great Bend	\$2,908,497	\$2,896,000	(\$12,497)	(0.43%)	\$2,833,000	\$2,910,000	(2.6%)	2.2%	No	44.875	45.095	48.454	No
71	Girard	\$449,417	\$447,283	(\$2,134)	(0.47%)	\$444,093	\$447,821	(0.8%)	0.7%	No	39.255	38.758	40.581	No
72	Roeland Park	\$854,217	\$848,783	(\$5,434)	(0.64%)	\$878,622	\$865,044	1.6%	(3.4%)	No	19.439	21.608	23.123	No
73	Garnett	\$510,068	\$506,757	(\$3,311)	(0.65%)	\$494,447	\$465,863	6.1%	2.5%	No	43.829	43.701	44.496	No
74	Phillipsburg	\$430,025	\$426,030	(\$3,995)	(0.93%)	\$434,167	\$443,993	(2.2%)	(1.9%)	No	48.038	48.393	48.875	No
75	Winfield	\$2,422,617	\$2,395,233	(\$27,384)	(1.13%)	\$2,186,122	\$2,295,262	(4.8%)	9.6%	No	48.434	47.938	48.242	No
76	Leawood	\$9,219,517	\$9,080,011	(\$139,506)	(1.51%)	\$8,145,824	\$7,416,179	9.8%	11.5%	No	23.396	23.456	23.475	No
77	Kansas City	\$36,551,419	\$35,990,094	(\$561,325)	(1.54%)	\$36,005,563	\$35,859,988	0.4%	(0.0%)	No	52.237	55.927	58.439	No
78	El Dorado	\$2,231,717	\$2,191,042	(\$40,675)	(1.82%)	\$1,997,560	\$1,961,825	1.8%	9.7%	No	44.656	42.536	42.326	No

1-11

CITY Comparison of Tax Levies
 Sorted by 1999 Actual to Maximum Variance %

1-18

Ct.	Name	99 Maximum	Actual Amount- 1999 Levy	1999 Variance		Actual Levy Amount		Dollar		Ordinance Required	Total Mill Levy Rates			Comments
		without Resolution *		Actual over Max.	Dollars	%	1998 Levy	1997 Levy	% of Change 97-98		98-99	1999	1998	
79	Herington	\$457,115	\$445,848	(\$11,267)	(2.46%)	\$446,319	\$413,496	7.9%	(0.1%)	No	66.354	64.827	63.207	No
80	Emporia	\$4,057,080	\$3,938,159	(\$118,921)	(2.93%)	\$3,579,194	\$3,546,867	0.9%	10.0%	No	36.283	35.327	35.329	No
81	Andover	\$1,176,497	\$1,141,803	(\$34,694)	(2.95%)	\$1,027,570	\$917,797	12.0%	11.1%	No	28.774	30.183	30.320	No
82	Colby	\$997,064	\$965,029	(\$32,035)	(3.21%)	\$919,682	\$884,791	3.9%	4.9%	No	34.711	34.490	33.317	No
83	Augusta	\$1,268,006	\$1,219,033	(\$48,973)	(3.86%)	\$1,010,084	\$1,033,256	(2.2%)	20.7%	No	36.276	34.786	34.318	No
84	Haysville	\$1,189,271	\$1,139,684	(\$49,587)	(4.17%)	\$1,098,761	\$1,018,592	7.9%	3.7%	No	41.673	42.370	42.538	No
85	Hillsboro	\$454,440	\$434,850	(\$19,590)	(4.31%)	\$407,494	\$383,586	6.2%	6.7%	No	39.665	40.155	40.992	No
86	Ulysses	\$1,181,704	\$1,128,144	(\$53,560)	(4.53%)	\$960,673	\$718,337	33.7%	17.4%	No	40.522	35.731	30.060	No
87	Fredonia	\$340,024	\$322,286	(\$17,738)	(5.22%)	\$259,597	\$240,729	7.8%	24.1%	No	36.870	30.950	28.960	No
88	Hugoton	\$526,639	\$498,750	(\$27,889)	(5.30%)	\$422,559	\$412,650	2.4%	18.0%	No	38.958	33.676	36.468	No
89	Osage City	\$382,488	\$359,480	(\$23,008)	(6.02%)	\$278,510	\$264,425	5.3%	29.1%	No	29.729	23.572	24.751	No
90	Salina	\$7,139,465	\$6,694,612	(\$444,853)	(6.23%)	\$6,416,832	\$6,081,748	5.5%	4.3%	No	24.876	25.270	25.705	No
91	Goodland	\$1,068,756	\$999,683	(\$69,073)	(6.46%)	\$957,286	\$873,554	9.6%	4.4%	No	46.749	46.930	47.410	No
92	Overland Park	\$15,563,767	\$14,537,000	(\$1,026,767)	(6.60%)	\$13,805,000	\$13,116,000	5.3%	5.3%	No	8.033	8.533	9.297	No
93	Kingman	\$774,511	\$713,584	(\$60,927)	(7.87%)	\$699,449	\$649,282	7.7%	2.0%	No	52.340	52.407	52.586	No
94	Derby	\$3,732,918	\$3,432,714	(\$300,204)	(8.04%)	\$3,079,906	\$2,819,071	9.3%	11.5%	No	40.830	40.184	39.852	No
95	South Hutchinson	\$553,534	\$503,464	(\$50,070)	(9.05%)	\$509,069	\$478,281	6.4%	(1.1%)	No	26.528	29.006	27.956	No
96	Manhattan	\$9,606,567	\$8,343,034	(\$1,263,533)	(13.15%)	\$7,576,802	\$7,249,862	4.5%	10.1%	No	42.813	41.875	41.727	No
97	Prairie Village	\$3,413,055	\$2,927,047	(\$486,008)	(14.24%)	\$2,930,000	\$2,935,000	(0.2%)	(0.1%)	No	13.827	16.011	16.379	No
98	Chanute	\$1,052,777	\$876,053	(\$176,724)	(16.79%)	\$851,458	\$831,770	2.4%	2.9%	No	26.572	26.727	26.725	No
99	Junction City	\$5,607,391	\$4,180,882	(\$1,426,509)	(25.44%)	\$3,974,648	\$3,700,705	7.4%	5.2%	No	58.754	58.485	52.007	No
100	Hesston	\$1,319,100	\$547,842	(\$771,258)	(58.47%)	\$522,935	\$528,236	(1.0%)	4.8%	No	27.251	29.550	29.660	No
Total Tax Levies		\$325,563,284	\$327,100,527	\$1,537,243		\$303,951,718	\$290,614,490	4.6%	7.6%					

City Comments

City of Holton

The increase is necessary to effectively implement the essential public services. The overall levy increased due to the debt service requirements for projects undertaken two years ago.

City of Hutchinson

Two major factors contributed to the increase: a long awaited fire district merger and loss in the countywide sales tax revenue due to the statutory distribution formula. If the tax lid had been in effect, the general fund levy (the only levy under the tax lid) would have been \$1,188,316 less than the tax lid limit.

City of Wichita

The city had previously stayed several mills under the tax lid and based on multi-year financial projections has sought to maintain a stable mill levy. In keeping with this practice, the 2000 budget maintained the same mill levy as the previous year and programmed tax revenue to meet critical community needs.

I appreciate this time to relate to this Taxation Committee how the appraised value increase of \$27,890 for our home we built 30 years ago with a book on framing--plumbing and heating and 3 years of our time resulted in a far from professional home, but it was ours. Now will we be taxed out of it?

Our drive way is apx. 350ft across the road from a cemetery--cow pasture is apx. 90ft. from our front room window on the east--bed rooms are apx. 175ft. from a cultivated field on the west--farm buildings are to the west and back. Our 100 year old farm house is still standing apx. 70ft. from our back door. Ten years ago it would have cost \$5,500 to have it removed because of special disposal methods to dispose of the old abestos siding.

Opinions from a local Realtor and one in Joplin, MO. was it would be fruitless to put the house with one acre of land on the market for \$77,500. We might like to view our cattle out of the front room window, and have grown used to the 100 year old house at our back door, prospective buyers would not.

But sales from homes of a few acres with no cemetery across the road, and in a better location were used to increase the appraised value for our un-sold home.

A friend of ours whose house is located in a designated slum area, and had data changes resulting in a valuation decrease granted by a BOTA hearing 3 years ago. Last year there was a 20% increase in appraised value for their home. The County stated they were justified in this value increase because there had been no increase in BOTA's value for 2 years. They used sales some were in the City for the appraised value for her unsold home.

Our friend and neighbor had a considerable increase in their homes appraised value last year also. He was shocked to say the least. He thought any change in value would be a decrease considering his front door is apx. 66ft from the Alt, 69 HWY. Again sales from a new housing district were used to appraise his unsold home.

Most people at the age of 65 or 70 are out of the work force. Sometimes one or both spouses are still living in the same house they raised their family in. They will sacrifice a lot to stay there. A young couple will also sacrifice a lot to provide a future for themselves. But if un-sold homes keep increasing in value 10-20-30% because some one sells their homes or a new sub-division opens up, no one will be able to pay their taxes. We need some kind of a hold measure. And I support this Committee in their efforts to do this.

House Taxation

Date 2/10/00

Attachment # 2

House Taxation Committee
February 10, 2000
Presenter: Larry Fischer, D.V.M.,
Impromptu notes

Taxes

Types

Indirect

Income

Sales

Direct

Head Tax

Property Tax

Founder preferred Indirect Taxes

Philosophy

Property taxes are NOT based on the ability to pay.

Power of the State

Produces nothing

Revenue increases the state and decreases the true seat of government—the people

Inflation

Even a few points above annual inflation rapidly skews revenue to government

..If you did not get a chance to read the August 17, 1995 *Wamego Times*, you missed an interesting editorial page evaluation of the county's budget as originally proposed. The evaluation noted that if you owned a home appraised at \$50,000 in 1994, and your appraisal in 1995 was increased by 10% to \$55,000, the proposed millage increase represents a jump of 30.7% in county taxes. If the county tax increased every year by this amount, the **taxes on the house would be \$33,888 in 2015...** *Wamego Times*, Thursday, September 4, 1995, pg. 3

Property Taxes attack one of the three fundamental freedoms of our Republic: Life, Liberty, Property

Traditionally property was a measure of wealth. Today it is not. A small cubicle equipped with a computer can generate vast amounts of income in some instances. Vast amounts of lands can sometimes produce nothing. Both are at the mercy of the local appraiser and his assessment may mean life or death of the enterprise or residence.

My story:

1976

1980's good times

1989—Reappraisal and Classification

600% increase---\$2,700 to \$16,400

Appeals—Endless Task

Reduced to the \$7,000 range

Activism damaged business

Violations of law regarding appraisal

Too difficult for the normal judge to understand

Result:

Lost nest egg

Lost potential earnings from those funds

Family

Other's have had their homes threatened

Elderly

Next to rapidly developing commercial areas

Don Cashatt--Lawrence

Judge McFarland excepted? Why?

Conclusion:

Property taxes should be eliminated totally.

House Taxation

Date 2/10/00

Attachment # 3-1

They won't be.
Therefore their damage should be controlled as much as possible
A cap on their use and growth is a small portion of that control and must be re-instituted and maintained.

Questions:

FYI:

Sales Taxes Should Be the Main Revenue Source. They are less regressive than property taxes.

There is no substantial agreement among analysts as to HOW REGRESSIVE the typical sales tax is... On average, the lifetime incidence of a broad-based consumption tax is only slightly regressive. Pg. 11-- Federation of Tax Administrators, Washington, DC, Research Report No. 135, October 1990.

"In most states, the heaviest tax burdens borne by low income households are those that result from property taxes."—Source: Unfinished Agenda of State Tax Reform, National Conference of State Legislatures, pg. 171.

"It is a signal (sic) advantage of taxes on articles of consumption that they contain in their own nature a security against excess. They prescribe their own limit; which cannot be exceeded without defeating the end proposed, that is, an extension of the revenue. When applied to this object, the saying is as just as it is witty, that, "in political arithmetic, two and two do not always make four." If duties are too high, they lessen the consumption; the collection is eluded; and the product to the treasury is not so great as when they are confined within proper and moderate bounds. This forms a complete barrier against any material oppression of the citizens by taxes of this class, and is itself a natural limitation of the power imposing them...Imposition of this kind usually fall under the denomination of indirect taxes, and must for a long time constitute the chief part of the revenue raised in this country."

Federalist No. 21--Alexander Hamilton.

"A Kansas Court of Appeals panel may or may not have the law on its side in upholding a **huge increase in property taxes for a Lawrence man who has found his home surrounded by more expensive commercial property.** But if so, there's something wrong with the law. "During the 29 years Donald E. Cashatt has owned the home at 2714 Iowa, surrounding properties became more and more commercial. Finally, his 1993 county valuation of \$72,500 turned into \$201,130 in 1994. Last week, a three-member Kansas Court of Appeals panel unanimously ruled the county appraiser had a legal right to value Cashatt's property at the higher level. "Maybe. But the practical effect is an eviction notice from his own home. In Cashatt's case, it's a moot point: He's already moved out and is in the process of selling it. And, indeed, he may get a price in the neighborhood of what the county said it was worth. But was it up to the government to tell Cashatt at what point his house should be sold? Should the government be in the position of telling property owners, 'You really ought to sell your house for use as a business--so here's a tax bill computed at commercial levels, just to help you arrive at your decision.' "In such a scenario, the property owner has no rights. He is simply entitled to the opinion of the appraiser. "We cannot allow the government to tax us based solely upon speculation and opinion. Appraisal must be based on facts as much as possible. And the fact is, a house is a house and should be appraised as such until the owner sells it or uses it as something else. Until Mr. Cashatt had a willing buyer's name on a contract, his house was worth \$72,500. Some would say it might be worth less: Who would want to live between two stores? "The legislature is considering whether to protect commercially surrounded homes from suffering the same valuation inflation as Cashatt has seen. It's a no-brainer, lawmakers. A vote to protect such properties is a vote for common sense and decency--and for a property owner's right to do with his property what he likes under the law.

"Of course, sensible and orderly growth of cities sometimes requires some reluctant homeowners to give way. It's called progress. But this is confiscatory taxation. It's not progress. Rather, it's a throwback to King George"

Source: "Confiscatory Taxation," Editorial, *Topeka Capital Journal*, March 4, 1997, *in toto* and with permission.

Ad Valorem taxes are to be imposed based on value of the property, not on owner's ability to pay. 933 P.2d 167, 23 Kan.App.2d 532, Board of County Com'rs v. Cashatt, (Kan.App. 1997) Pg. 4

"Tiny Dover, Vermont, all 716 voting souls, just joined America's growing schools revolt. Rather than send \$500,000 in property taxes due to Montpelier, the town's leaders have decided to withhold their money. In tones worthy of Vermont's radical father, Ethan Allen, town vice-chairman Jan Chadwick thumbed her nose

at the capital. 'The board of selectmen decided not to authorize that a check be cut for Act 60 taxes,' Ms. Chadwick told local papers. 'It's an act of civil rebellion and we don't know the consequences.' Says Mary Lou Raymo, who has served as town clerk for 12 years: 'I guess the state is just going to have to build a bigger jail.'

"... The Vermont rebellion appears to be growing. The Deerfield Valley News reports that 'other towns around the state have considered similar measures... These New England stirrings bear watching because this is territory where the tradition of local selectmen and home rule remains strong. In his day, Vermont's Ethan Allen fought off the British—and New York state's 18th-century version of bureaucrats—when they tried to exact taxes from Vermonters. The Green Mountain Boy wrote: 'Those bloody lawgivers know we [must] oppose their execution of law, where it points directly at our property.' When similar voices begin to stir in the same rocky soil that produced the nation's first tax rebels, it's probably worth noticing."

Source: Excerpted from 'Civil Rebellion,' Review and Outlook portion of the *Wall Street Journal*, May 29, 1998.

"What has happened to the tax revolt that was supposed to take place when residents received their new tax appraisals? Have we become so accustomed to being lied to that we accept it as normal? Have we, from past experiences, found it is pointless to protest? I find it appalling and rather sad that we have become like some old dog. We are so used to being kicked we now accept it without a growl or even a whimper. I was told by virtually everyone I talked to 'No need to protest; it won't do any good.' This may be true, but at least I will try, again and again if necessary, so I can say, 'I tried.'"

Source: "Don't give up tax fight," letter to editor by Lucile Terry, *Topeka Capital Journal*, May 1998?

"In the March 16 letters, a woman in Texas wanted to be told about Topeka. I will write and tell her I live in a 50-year-old home, in a 50-plus year old neighborhood. The valuation of my home for the past several years has been \$88,700. Without any improvements, my valuation went to \$103,600 for 1999. I was born in Topeka over 70 years ago, and I wouldn't recommend anyone moving here. As a matter of fact I wouldn't encourage anyone to move to the state." Letter to editor by C.R. Kirby, *Topeka Capital Journal*, April 4, 1999.

"It is time for spring cleaning and the Shawnee county appraiser is leading the parade. His objective is to clean out our bank accounts. Debra Stufflebean's letter in the March 27 issue of the Topeka Capital Journal made many very valid points. I have often dreamed of owning and living in a \$100,000 home. My dream is slowly becoming a reality. And the comforting thought is that I won't even have to move. The assessed value of my house has almost doubled in the 10 years I have owned it. But the question is, 'Can I sell it for what it is assessed?' We homeowners can protest our assessment. But it is David vs. Goliath. And David doesn't have a slingshot. I've tried a protest, to no avail. Valuation of property should not exceed more than the rate of inflation. Someone had better get a leash on the county appraiser. It would be to the advantage of the economic health of Shawnee County." Source: Letter to the editor by Jim Cassin, Topeka, *Topeka Capital Journal*, April 13, 1999.

"Recent events have made it clear to me that a public discussion of property tax is in order. What is the issue and why now, you ask? Well, consider this: Property tax is the most obscene tax in the world, for the following reasons. First, property tax amounts to the government charging you rent for your using your property and the government determines the amount of the rent. Second, there is no connection between the amount of tax levied and the ability to pay. At least with income tax, you don't pay it unless you have the income and with sales tax, you don't pay it unless you spend the money. Third, taxing anything discourages it. Property ownership is an indication of success in life and stability in the community, things which government should encourage. Fourth, property tax is assessed against only certain types of property.... Fifth, mere possession of the property is taxed; you pay tax on your automobile even if it never leaves your driveway. Sixth, property is taxed way out of proportion to the tax paid on other purchases...."-- Source: 'Unkindest tax to all,' *Topeka Capital Journal* letter to editor by Lloyd Verhage, Riley, KS, 6 May 99.

"Let these truths be indelibly impressed on our minds—that we cannot be happy, without being free—that we cannot be free, without being secure in our property—that we cannot be secure in our property, if, without our consent, others may... take it away—that taxes imposed on us..., do take it away—that duties laid for the sole purpose of raising money, are taxes—that attempts to lay such duties should be instantly and firmly opposed—that this opposition can never be effectual, unless it is by (a) united effort..."

Source: Letter from a Farmer in Pennsylvania, by John Dickinson as printed in *Empire and Nation*, ISBN 0-86597-203-6, Letter XII, pg. 80

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February 10, 2000

Testimony Supporting HB 2893

By Karl Peterjohn

The Kansas Taxpayers Network had repeatedly testified in support of a tax lid. This is despite the numerous exemptions in that lid and the relatively low level of protection provided to the average Kansas property taxpayer. Despite these flaws as seen from a taxpayer perspective the legislature decided to allow this lid to expire last year.

The tax lid concept is popular. In 1997 several counties sought to escape from the tax lid and all were rejected by the voters at the April elections. The most compelling example was in Sedgwick County where almost 90 percent of the voters supported keeping the county under the property tax lid.

HB 2893 would place the cities and counties under a Consumer Price Index Lid. The local units would be able to opt out of this lid by the use of charter resolutions or ordinances. Taxpayers could keep the local units under this lid by conducting a petition drive in a very short period of time that would then force a tax referendum election. This petition requirement is onerous when compared with the fact that many states automatically place these tax hikes on a tax referendum ballot.

This proposal, which is tighter than current law, is not nearly as tight as tax limitations in several surrounding states. It is much easier to raise Kansas taxes than the provisions limiting property tax growth in: Missouri, Oklahoma, and Colorado. Every survey of our supporters across Kansas indicates overwhelming support for mandatory voter approval of Kansas tax hikes at both the state and local levels.

The popularity of a limit on government tax increases can be demonstrated by the landslide in Washington State last November. At that election the voters approved a proposal which required voter approval of all state and local taxes in that state. KTN supports any effort by this committee that would empower voters when it comes to raising taxes.

House Taxation

Date 2/10/00

Attachment # 4



Kansas Association of REALTORS®

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TELEPHONE 785/267-3610 • 1-800-366-0069
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TO: HOUSE TAXATION SUBCOMMITTEE

FROM: KAREN FRANCE, DIRECTOR OF GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

DATE: FEBRUARY 10, 2000

SUBJECT: HB 2853, HB 2893 TRUTH IN TAXATION

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. On behalf of the Kansas Association of REALTORS®, we appear in support of both of these proposals.

The expiration of the tax lid last year was an unfortunate turn of events for the property taxpayers of the state. With the expiration of the tax lid, the taxpayers lost their ability to stop their local taxing units from spending the increased revenue generated off of increased valuations.

While the so-called "truth in taxation" bill was supposed to be a trade-off for letting the lid expire, it was a poor substitute. The taxpayers lost their ability to have an election on these budget issues. With the lid in place, the city or county could only exceed the lid if they passed a charter ordinance or resolution that was subject to a protest petition. The so-called "truth in taxation" solution did not allow for any such participation by the voters.

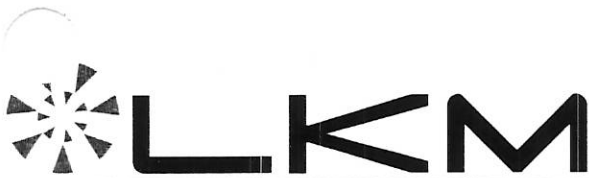
As was demonstrated over the years, the tax lid, by itself, did not limit the growth of budgets for taxing subdivisions. Yet, somehow, the cities and counties argued year after year that they were prevented from doing their jobs if the lid remained in place.

We believe that true "local control" means giving taxpayers the ability to have control over the budgets of their local government. Those cities and counties who chartered out from under the lid were able to show their constituents that there were particular demands that justified getting out from under it. These demands were sufficient enough for the officials to be willing to subject their decision to a protest petition and ultimately survived that test. Why was this element of "local control" removed? The removal of the lid gave local officials a "blank check" on the checkbook of property taxpayers.

We believe either of these bills returns the true "local control" back to the taxpayer, where it belongs. They both allow budgets to grow modestly, while retaining the taxpayers ability to force an election on the budget issues, rather than wait until the next election (which can be four years away) to vote against an elected official who raised their taxes year after year.

We urge your favorable consideration of these bills.

House Taxation
Date 2/10/00
Attachment # 5



League of Kansas Municipalities

To: House Taxation Committee
From: Don Moler, Executive Director
Date: February 10, 2000
Re: Opposition to HB 2853

First I would like to thank the Committee for allowing the League to testify today in opposition to HB 2853. As the Committee will remember, last year the legislature passed and the Governor signed legislation which required cities and counties to pass resolutions and ordinances if their overall proposed property tax levy were to be increased over the prior budget year. The stated intent of the sponsor, Senator President Dick Bond, was to allow for public notice when proposed budgets increased the total dollar amount being levied.

Information we have received from the Division of Accounts and Reports indicates that there has been 100% compliance with this law by cities in Kansas. We are very pleased with the response and would point to this as a clear indication that the law has successfully achieved what it intended to do, by putting the public on notice that a dollar increase in their property taxes would be forthcoming in the next budget year. We believe that the sponsor's intent has been met, that local governments have stepped up to the plate and responded positively, and that the law is working well.

We do not believe it is now necessary to impose arbitrary controls, in the form of a protest petition, which would be allowed should proposed increases exceed 3% of the prior year levy. We do not believe that this is necessary or warranted at the present time. We would point out that local government is responsive to its citizens and that if the citizens believe that inappropriate property tax levies have been made, their remedy is the ballot box. We would also point out that this allows for the system to operate. It allows for decisions of the representative democracy to be made by elected representatives of the people, and it allows the people to decide if the decisions being made are in their best interest. We do not believe that placing a protest petition on the current process is necessary, and we would urge the committee to reject HB 2853.

House Taxation
Date 2/10/00
Attachment # 6



League of Kansas Municipalities

To: House Taxation Committee
From: Don Moler, Executive Director
Date: February 10, 2000
Re: Opposition to HB 2893

First I would like to thank the Committee for allowing the League to testify today in opposition to HB 2893. As I am sure that you are all aware, the aggregate property tax lid expired July 1, 1999 after having been in place for a quarter of a century. Cities across the state are very thankful that the 1999 Legislature saw fit to allow the aggregate property tax lid to expire during 1999. We believe that this allows for the flexibility necessary at the local level for cities and counties to adequately fund services by use of the property tax. As we have advocated for years, it is the rightful place of a locally elected governing body to make determinations concerning appropriate levels for the property tax.

Pursuant to the *1999-2000 Statement of Municipal Policy*, which was adopted by the League Convention of Voting Delegates on October 5, 1999, the policy of the League is as follows: "F-7. Property Tax Limits. (a) We continue to oppose any property tax lid. We believe such state-imposed controls to be in conflict with the clear intent of constitutional home rule, which provides for the determination of local affairs by locally elected governing bodies, directly responsible to the citizens of the affected communities.

Clearly, the stance of the League remains the same as it has throughout the past 25 years, that locally elected governing bodies are responsive to the public and should be allowed to continue to make decisions reflecting local needs on a year to year basis. Arbitrary tax lids, which restrict this ability, should be rejected by the state legislature. This is especially true when we are facing potential cuts in state aid which will impact the ability of cities and counties to deliver currently available local services. Local government must be allowed the flexibility to adjust property tax rates as necessary. Thank you very much for allowing me to appear today before the Committee I would be happy to answer to any questions the Committee may have.



**KANSAS
ASSOCIATION OF
COUNTIES**

**Testimony concerning HB 2853 and HB 2893
House Taxation Committee
February 10, 2000
Presented by Randy Allen, Executive Director
Kansas Association of Counties**

Madam Chair and members of the committee, my name is Randy Allen, Executive Director of the Kansas Association of Counties. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony on House Bills 2853 and 2893, of which both would impose additional requirements on local governing bodies if property tax increases in any given year were to exceed what would be considered an *allowable increase* (i.e. 3% in HB 2853; the CPI in HB 2859). The clear intent in both resolutions is to limit the discretion of boards of county commissioners, city councils, and other locally elected governing bodies from making taxing decisions which they feel are in the best interest of their citizens.

I cannot overstate our strong objection to both proposals. Both proposals signify a mistrust of local officials and their abilities to make good decisions about the level of local services and how they should be financed. Both proposals seem to disregard the fact that all 335 county commissioners in our state are elected by the people – just as each of you – to make the very best decisions in behalf of their constituents. They subject themselves to the same electoral process that you do, and their meetings and decisions are even more visible to their constituents than are your meetings.

Not even a year has passed since the aggregate tax levy limitation (“tax lid”) was removed. We have not yet even had the opportunity to see whether there will be electoral consequences for county commissioners and other elected officials whose levies increased in the most recent (1999) tax year. I suspect that in most counties, most citizens have a pretty good idea as to whether their counties' financial houses are in order. I suspect that most citizens have a fairly well confirmed perception as to whether the resources they entrust to county officials are being wisely used to advance public purposes. And, if citizens perceive that they are not, I suspect that there will be turnover in elected leadership of counties this coming November.

At a time when counties are being asked to do more in the way of services for juveniles, for the mentally ill, for infrastructure projects such as providing local matching dollars for State Highway system enhancement projects, and at a time when the Legislature is considering 6.5% reductions in our share of demand transfer revenues, I ask in behalf of counties and county commissioners: “how do you expect services to be provided without sufficient revenues?” No one likes property taxes, but what is the alternative?

The Legislature, as a collective body, makes taxing and spending decisions each year on behalf of all Kansans. You are representative of all Kansans. No one questions your ability to represent the citizens in making important decisions to, for example, raise the gasoline tax or registration fees to help finance a new comprehensive transportation program. In the same way,

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county commissioners are representative of county citizens. They deserve the respect that you expect, i.e. that they are fully capable in this representative democracy of making decisions they feel are in the best interest of their communities. The check and balance is the electoral process. It has always worked and it will continue to work. We urge you to reject both HB 2853 and 2893. If you have questions, I would be happy to respond. Thank you.

The Kansas Association of Counties, an instrumentality of member counties under K.S.A. 19-2690, provides legislative representation, educational and technical services and a wide range of informational services to its member counties. Inquiries concerning this testimony should be directed to Randy Allen or Judy Moler by calling (785) 272-2585.

**TESTIMONY ON HB 2853, HOUSE TAXATION COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 10, 2000
DANA FENTON, INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS COORDINATOR
JOHNSON COUNTY, KANSAS**



Madame Chair and members of the committee, my name is Dana Fenton, Intergovernmental Relations Coordinator for Johnson County, Kansas. Thank you for this opportunity to appear in front of the committee. I am here to express the Opposition of the Johnson County Board of Commissioners to HB 2853.

The salient issue in this bill is local control - if this bill were to be enacted local control over revenues and budgets would be eroded. The ability of local governing bodies to respond appropriately to local needs could be compromised by this bill. In my testimony today, I would like to provide two examples of local control which were well received by the residents of Johnson County.

The first decision was one made by the County Commission to rollback property tax levies for the increases in valuation resulting from reappraisal from FY 1996 through FY 1999. This move was prompted by citizen reaction to reappraisals of existing properties. The County Commission took a proactive step and adopted the mill levy rollback concept. Essentially, Johnson County followed this concept for four years before the State of Kansas enacted like legislation in 1999. This was done even though the County had ample taxing authority under the old tax lids (in 1999, the Commission used only 60% of its taxing capacity). In summary a responsible decision was made to rollback property tax levies at the local level.

For FY 2000, the County Commission originally proposed what would have been a fifth-straight mill levy rollback budget. This budget, unlike the four previous budgets, included over \$10 million in service cuts in order to rollback the mill levy. Services such as libraries, parks, corrections, road construction, courts, mental health, developmental disabilities were targeted for reductions. The public protested and they protested loudly. Many of the cities in our county, upset over proposed cuts to a city-county road construction partnership, expressed their disapproval loudly.

Over one hundred people showed up for a hearing on that proposed budget in May 1999 and overwhelmingly sent the message not to cut back on services. The message was reinforced in budget deliberations before, during and after department budget reviews. Commissioners received many phone calls and letters from residents asking them not to cut back on services even though property tax increases would be necessary. The final budget, complete with property tax increases, was presented at the required budget hearing and received the approval of the public. The message that County residents want quality public services, even if a property tax increase is needed, was heard loud and clear.

After the County's budget was formally adopted, Johnson County received the coveted AAA credit rating from the S&P credit rating agency. One of the reasons for this rating was that the County was making an effort to cash fund CIP projects instead of issuing debt. This effort alone required an additional \$3 million in cash. Also noted by S&P was that the State of Kansas had eliminated the fund mill levy limits and repealed the aggregate tax lid. The message we received was that the ability of local governments to levy taxes to finance current operations and to keep debt low is a positive factor in the eyes of the credit rating agencies.

In ending, the County Commission's decisions to increase property taxes for FY 2000 and rollback property taxes from FY 1996 through FY 1999 were local decisions made with the opinions of Johnson County residents in mind. I respectfully request that the Committee reject this bill.

Thank you for your time and I will be glad to stand for questions.

House Taxation

Date 2-10/00

Attachment # 9



TESTIMONY

City of Wichita
Mike Taylor, Government Relations Director
455 N Main, Wichita, KS. 67202
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House Bill 2853 Local Property Tax Lid

Delivered February 10, 2000
To
House Tax Committee

The City of Wichita believes its citizens and the City Council they elect are capable and responsible enough to determine local tax and spending policies without mandated limitations imposed by the State Legislature. An arbitrary tax lid infringes on the rights of citizens and their locally elected leaders to determine the appropriate level of government services wanted and needed by the community. The City of Wichita opposes re-establishment of the tax lid on local government and opposes any kind of spending lid on local government.

The average home in Wichita is valued at \$77,863. Annual city property taxes on that home amount to about \$280 a year, or less than \$24 a month. A family of four is likely to spend that much, or more, for cable television, telephone service, Internet service or on family trip to the movies, without popcorn. These comparisons emphasize the value represented by municipal services. The family living in that \$78,000 house receives 24-hour a day police and fire protection, streets, parks, libraries and a myriad of other services for about \$24 a month.

The year 2000 budget set by the Wichita City Council required no mill levy increase for the seventh consecutive year. The city mill levy in Wichita is 31.2 mills. The total budget is \$301-million, a .4% decrease from 1999. That budget pays for 112 additional police officers and 15 additional support positions as part of the Public Safety Initiative. An additional \$1.2-million was added for increased street maintenance, \$6-million has been allocated to improve fire service and the budget pays for extended library hours and includes an additional \$100,000 for more children's books. Those are just a few of the highlights.

When the tax lid expired last year, the City of Wichita was 3 mills below the lid. Had the lid remained in place, the City would have again been well below the limits. More evidence a State imposed tax lid is not needed. As far as the "truth-in-taxation" measure, the City Council declared \$779,000 in extra general fund spending derived from re-appraisal on existing property. Those additional funds were directed to public safety and additional investment in street maintenance. That fact was well publicized by the City and supported by citizens.

The Wichita City Council is committed to making Wichita a great city in which to live and work. And the citizens they represent are supportive of those efforts from the public safety initiative to the quality of life measures. There is no property tax outcry to the Wichita City Council. And there is no need for the State Legislature to meddle in local affairs by re-imposing a property tax lid.

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