

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Vickrey at 3:30 p.m. on February 13, 2003 in Room 519-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Rep. Ethel Peterson

Committee staff present: Mike Heim - Legislative Research Department
Kathie Sparks - Legislative Research Department
Theresa Kiernan - Office of Revisor of Statutes
Maureen Stinson - Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Rep. Doug Gatewood	Kansas House of Representatives
Bret Glendening	League of Kansas Municipalities
Judy Moler	Kansas Association of Counties
David Yearout	Kansas Association of County Planning and Zoning Officials
Will Johnson	Butler County Administration Department

Others attending: See attached list

Chairman Vickrey opened the hearing on:

HB 2202: Land to be incorporated as, or added to a city; title insurance

Rep. Doug Gatewood, proponent of the bill, addressed the committee. He stated that the bill would allow presentation of a land title insurance policy to the county or city attorney in lieu of an abstract of title when land is incorporated into a city. He stated that currently, only an abstract of title and the plat to the land which is to be incorporated are considered acceptable documents. No written testimony was submitted.

Bret Glendening, Program Manager, League of Kansas Municipalities, offered testimony in support of the bill (Attachment 1). He said that this bill makes changes to K.S.A. 12-401 and that the changes proposed in the bill will modernize the existing statute and bring it into line with current real estate title practices. He informed the committee that the bill permits the use of title insurance or the use of an abstract of title as the means of establishing "good title" in the person or persons proposing to dedicate land to a city. He stated that the use of title insurance for this purpose has become much more common place in recent years. He explained that this is primarily because title insurance is generally less expensive than having an abstract extended to date and then having an attorney examine the abstract and prepare a written opinion as to the quality of title held by a proposed grantor. On behalf of the League of Kansas Municipalities, he urged support for and favorable action on the bill.

There were no opponents to the bill.

The Chairman closed the hearing on **HB 2202**.

Chairman Vickrey opened the hearing on:

HB 2112: Enforcement of county codes and resolutions

Judy Moler, Kansas Association of Counties, spoke in favor of the bill, stating that they strongly support the bill and asked for its introduction (Attachment 2). She said that the bill extends to all counties the ability to have a statutory county code court. She informed the committee that counties, by their option, could then have their county codes enforced, when necessary, in this county code court. She explained that currently, the statute allows those counties with a population of more than 150,000 to do so.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT at on February 13, 2003 in Room 519-S of the Capitol.

David Yearout, a member of the Legislative Committee of the Kansas Association of County Planning and Zoning Officials, expressed support for the bill on behalf of the association (Attachment 3). . He stated that the bill simply makes the Codes Court system available to all counties without regard to population. He feels that the bill would enable counties to deal with local issues through a proven Court system without having to depend solely upon finding docket space in the District Courts. He submitted that the Kansas Association of County Planning and Zoning Officials believe the Court system has proven itself as an efficient and effective method of providing reasonable enforcement of county codes and resolutions in larger counties. Furthermore, these efficiencies are provided without adding to the burden of the District Courts. Mr. Yearout urged the committee to approve the bill without any changes so that efficiency can be used by any county that chooses to do so.

William Johnson, Jr., County Administrator, Butler County, appeared next, speaking on behalf of Butler County, in support of the bill (Attachment 4). He explained that with the removal of population limits concerning implementation of Codes Courts, Butler County will be able to implement one of its highest priorities, which is the establishment of a Codes Court Program. He testified that with Butler County's current growth and proximity to Sedgwick County, the demand for such a program, due to problems such as animal control, illegal dumping, and noncompliance with building codes has escalated. Mr. Johnson said that through the implementation of such a program, enforcement actions could be addressed separately from the County Attorney's Office and result in a significant reduction in cases in the County Attorney's Office. He summarized that the establishment of such a program would ensure a safe and sanitary atmosphere for the residents in Butler County through regulation of the design, construction, use/occupancy of property, location and maintenance of all buildings, structures, and related equipment.

There were no opponents to the bill.

Chairman Vickrey closed the hearing on **HB 2112**.

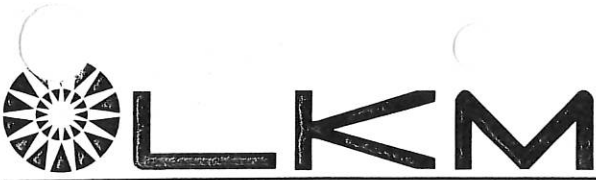
The meeting was adjourned at 3:55 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 18, 2003.

HOUSE LOCAL GOVERNMENT

DATE 2-13-03

NAME	REPRESENTING
Pam Hopper	KS Dairy Assoc.
Judry Molar	KAC
David Yearnt	KACPZO
William H Johnson	Butler County
Todd Kenemer	Butler County
Eloise Fickens	Jefferson County
Bert Blunder	LKM
LARRY R BAER	LKM
[Signature]	Labette Co. Farm Bureau
Dale L Lavender	Labette Co. Farm Bureau.
DAVID Ashby	Labette Co. Farm Bureau
Amber D. Hess	" "
Tarran Murphy	Labette Co. Farm Bureau
Linda Bohnsack	Leavenworth Co



League of Kansas Municipalities

300 SW 8th Avenue
Topeka, Kansas 66603-3912
Phone: (785) 354-9565
Fax: (785) 354-4186

To: House Committee on Local Government

From: Bret Glendening, Program Manager

Re: Support for HB 2202

Date: February 13, 2003

Thank you for allowing me to appear on behalf of the League of Kansas Municipalities and its member cities today to offer testimony in support of HB 2202. This bill makes changes to K.S.A. 12-401. The original legislation was enacted in 1868 and has not been changed since 1923. The changes contained in HB 2202 will modernize the existing statute and bring it into line with current real estate title practices.

This bill permits the use of title insurance or the use of an abstract of title as the means of establishing "good title" in the person or persons proposing to dedicate land to a city. The use of title insurance for this purpose has become much more common place in recent years.

HB 2202 does not so much change the law as modernize it. In many parts, if not most, of the state the use of title insurance has become the rule and the use of abstracts of title the exception. This is primarily because title insurance is generally less expensive than having an abstract extended to date and then having an attorney examine the abstract and prepare a written opinion as to the quality of title held by a proposed grantor.

We urge your support for and favorable action on HB 2202.

Thank you. I will be happy to stand for questions;

House Local Government
Date: 2-13-2003
Attachment # 1



TESTIMONY
Before the House Local Government Committee
HB 2112
February 13, 2003

By Judy A. Moler, General Counsel/Legislative Services Director

Thank you Chairman Vickery and Members of the House Local Government Committee for allowing the Kansas Association of Counties to provide testimony on HB 2112.

The Kansas Association of Counties supports HB 2112. This bill would extend to all counties the ability to have a statutory county code court. Counties, by their option, could then have their county codes enforced, when necessary, in this county code court. Currently, the statute allows those counties with a population of over 150,000 to do so.

Currently, these less populous counties have the ability to seek enforcement of these codes through the district court. In many counties, these districts courts are already burdened with cases that are more severe in nature. Thus, these code cases fall to the bottom of the barrel in terms of docketing the cases. We are asking for those counties who wish to do so, to be given a level playing field with the four most populous counties. This is not extending to counties any new powers for code enforcement officers only a method to expedite hearings for those found in violation of the county codes.

The Kansas Association of Counties strongly supports the passage of HB 2112.

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.

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Topeka, KS 66615
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House Local Government
Date: 2-13-2003
Attachment # 2

HOUSE LOCAL GOVERNMENT
COMMITTEE

HB 2112

Thursday, February 13, 2003

TESTIMONY

of

David L. Yearout, AICP

on behalf of the

Kansas Association of County Planning
and Zoning Officials

House Local Government
Date: 2-13-2003
Attachment # 3

Honorable Jene Vickery, Chair, and Members of the House Local Governmental Committee, thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today in support of HB 2112. My name is David Yearout. I am a Planning and Zoning Consultant with over 30 years experience working with cities and counties in Kansas. I am also a member of the Kansas Association of County Planning and Zoning Officials (KACPZO), which is affiliated with the Kansas Association of Counties. I am a member of the Legislative Committee of KACPZO and appear before you today as the spokesman for that committee.

HB 2112 is a simple bill that, if enacted, would remove a population restriction on the establishment of County Codes Courts. Presently, the law restricts the use of this court system to counties with a total population of 150,000 or more. As such, only 4 counties in Kansas are eligible to use this process; namely Johnson, Sedgwick, Wyandotte and Shawnee counties as you can see from the attached listing of county populations (blue sheets). Of these, only Johnson and Sedgwick counties have implemented and are using the Codes Court system to date. So you can see, this is not a mandatory provision of law and the amendment within HB 2112 does not change that. All this bill does is make this Court system available to all counties without regard to population.

However, it is my belief that the need for this Court system has nothing to do with the population of a county. It has everything to do with enabling counties to deal

with local issues through a proven Court system without having to depend solely upon finding docket space in the District Courts. There are a couple of points I wish to make supporting my belief this law should be available to any county wishing to use it.

First, the jurisdiction of any county code or resolution that would be considered in a County Codes Court is the unincorporated area of that county only. No county adopted code or resolution has any jurisdiction inside an incorporated city. Therefore, it is important to understand which people are affected by county codes and resolutions and that any administration and enforcement action which might ultimately be necessary is done so in the interest, primarily, of those people in the unincorporated areas. Please note the listing of county populations attached (yellow sheets) that are sorted by the rural population. This lists the counties, in order, based on that rural population only. As you can see, there is a significantly different perspective of where the affected people are when you look at the population figures in this manner.

Additionally, if you take into consideration the rural population as a percentage of the total county population and list the counties based on this percentage, as shown on the green sheets, the order of the counties is even more enlightening. In this listing please note that the last three counties listed are three of the four counties presently allowed to utilize a County Codes Court; namely Wyandotte, Johnson and Sedgwick. My point is only to show that a total county population does not tell the true story of a county's obligation and responsibilities when you are dealing with county adopted

codes and resolutions. You must exclude the city populations in order to get a true picture.

My second point is that the population within a county is no indication of the potential need for this Court system. I know that some very rural counties within Kansas have adopted and are administering and enforcing Zoning Regulations on a countywide basis. Many of these I have had the privilege to work with in over the past few years. I can tell you for a fact that Hodgeman County (which is ranked 101st in total county population) has adopted Zoning Regulations and that Wallace County (which is ranked 104th in total county population) has proposed Zoning Regulations before the County Commissioners, even though those Regulations have yet to be adopted. By my count, well over half of the counties across Kansas have Zoning Regulations in some form on the books. Further, almost all counties have adopted sanitation codes, the enforcement of which would benefit by this court. And many have other local resolutions and codes dealing with nuisances and other matters of local concern. I believe an objective evaluation of the local needs would show that this Court system should be available to ANY COUNTY that decides it is needed locally.

The Kansas Association of County Planning and Zoning Officials believes this Court system has proven itself as an efficient and effective method of providing reasonable enforcement of county codes and resolutions in our larger counties. And these efficiencies are provided without adding to the burden of the District Courts.

Please approve HB 2112 without any changes so that efficiency can be used by any county that chooses to do so. Thank you for your support.

Copop2002Only

Total Population - 2001	County	Rural Population - 2001	Percentage Rural - 2001
465058	Johnson	15189	3.26
455516	Sedgwick	47956	10.53
170080	Shawnee	44634	26.24
157461	Wyandotte	52	0.03
100005	Douglas	11510	11.51
70261	Leavenworth	19078	27.15
64237	Reno	15228	23.71
60368	Riley	14318	23.72
60194	Butler	22852	37.96
53646	Saline	6436	12
40082	Finney	10105	25.21
37927	Crawford	9149	24.11
35929	Cowley	9982	27.78
35560	Lyon	6200	17.44
35520	Montgomery	9681	27.26
33031	Harvey	6298	19.07
32314	Ford	5420	16.77
29618	McPherson	7570	25.56
28780	Miami	15787	54.85
27810	Barton	6147	22.1
27247	Ellis	4163	15.28
26799	Geary	7096	26.48
25749	Sumner	9350	36.31
24943	Franklin	8888	35.63
22483	Labette	5740	25.53
22434	Seward	2385	10.63

Total Population - 2001	County	Rural Population - 2001	Percentage Rural - 2001
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22333	Cherokee	9466	42.38
19155	Dickinson	6340	33.1
18610	Jefferson	11986	64.41
18336	Pottawatomie	8974	48.94
16903	Osage	7658	45.31
16759	Neosho	4858	28.99
16687	Atchison	5380	32.24
15371	Bourbon	6056	39.4
14193	Allen	3998	28.17
13423	Marion	4701	35.02
12742	Jackson	7435	58.35
10772	Marshall	3884	36.06
10630	Brown	3895	36.64
10588	Rice	2473	23.36
10516	Nemaha	4395	41.79
10235	Wilson	3864	37.75
9985	Cloud	2223	22.26
9685	Linn	4922	50.82
9544	Pratt	2322	24.33
8815	Coffey	3139	35.61
8771	Clay	2669	30.43
8512	Kingman	3829	44.98
8303	Doniphan	3108	37.43
8190	Anderson	3644	44.49
8080	Thomas	2069	25.61
7790	Grant	1933	24.81
7771	Greenwood	2927	37.67
7166	Russell	1220	17.02

Total Population - 2001	County	Rural Population - 2001	Percentage Rural - 2001
6979	Pawnee	2303	33
6843	Wabaunsee	3834	56.03
6778	Mitchell	1469	21.67
6528	Sherman	1513	23.18
6488	Ellsworth	1615	24.89
6335	Harper	1678	26.49
6321	Washington	2680	42.4
6190	Ottawa	2522	40.74
6112	Morris	2570	42.05
5946	Gray	2157	36.28
5873	Phillips	1711	29.13
5841	Norton	2027	34.7
5646	Republic	2072	36.7
5614	Rooks	1442	25.69
5379	Stevens	1493	27.76
5163	Barber	1290	24.98
5002	Scott	1237	24.73
4755	Stafford	1561	32.83
4647	Meade	1238	26.64
4562	Kearny	1334	29.24
4436	Smith	1518	34.22
4345	Osborne	1174	27.02
4285	Haskell	1480	34.54
4270	Chautauqua	1760	41.22
3758	Woodson	1685	44.84
3591	Jewell	1580	44
3547	Lincoln	1573	44.35
3488	Rush	945	27.09

Total Population - 2001	County	Rural Population - 2001	Percentage Rural - 2001
3432	Decatur	1105	32.2
3385	Morton	715	21.12
3340	Ness	969	29.01
3325	Edwards	949	28.54
3195	Trego	1216	38.06
3189	Elk	1231	38.6
3132	Kiowa	780	24.9
3114	Cheyenne	1171	37.6
3033	Chase	1323	43.62
3008	Gove	1176	39.1
2957	Logan	654	22.12
2918	Rawlins	1359	46.57
2845	Graham	969	34.06
2726	Sheridan	1325	48.61
2671	Hamilton	763	28.57
2538	Wichita	937	36.92
2408	Stanton	705	29.28
2371	Clark	581	24.5
2154	Hodgeman	953	44.24
2091	Lane	868	41.51
1961	Comanche	560	28.56
1706	Wallace	829	48.59
1503	Greeley	547	36.39

Copop2002RuralOnly

Rural Population - 2001	County	Total Population - 2001	Percentage Rural - 2001
47956	Sedgwick	455516	10.53
44634	Shawnee	170080	26.24
22852	Butler	60194	37.96
19078	Leavenworth	70261	27.15
15787	Miami	28780	54.85
15228	Reno	64237	23.71
15189	Johnson	465058	3.26
14318	Riley	60368	23.72
11986	Jefferson	18610	64.41
11510	Douglas	100005	11.51
10105	Finney	40082	25.21
9982	Cowley	35929	27.78
9681	Montgomery	35520	27.26
9466	Cherokee	22333	42.38
9350	Sumner	25749	36.31
9149	Crawford	37927	24.11
8974	Pottawatomie	18336	48.94
8888	Franklin	24943	35.63
7658	Osage	16903	45.31
7570	McPherson	29618	25.56
7435	Jackson	12742	58.35
7096	Geary	26799	26.48
6436	Saline	53646	12
6340	Dickinson	19155	33.1
6298	Harvey	33031	19.07
6200	Lyon	35560	17.44

Rural Population - 2001	County	Total Population - 2001	Percentage Rural - 2001
6147	Barton	27810	22.1
6056	Bourbon	15371	39.4
5740	Labette	22483	25.53
5420	Ford	32314	16.77
5380	Atchison	16687	32.24
4922	Linn	9685	50.82
4858	Neosho	16759	28.99
4701	Marion	13423	35.02
4395	Nemaha	10516	41.79
4163	Ellis	27247	15.28
3998	Allen	14193	28.17
3895	Brown	10630	36.64
3884	Marshall	10772	36.06
3864	Wilson	10235	37.75
3834	Wabaunsee	6843	56.03
3829	Kingman	8512	44.98
3644	Anderson	8190	44.49
3139	Coffey	8815	35.61
3108	Doniphan	8303	37.43
2927	Greenwood	7771	37.67
2680	Washington	6321	42.4
2669	Clay	8771	30.43
2570	Morris	6112	42.05
2522	Ottawa	6190	40.74
2473	Rice	10588	23.36
2385	Seward	22434	10.63
2322	Pratt	9544	24.33
2303	Pawnee	6979	33

Rural Population - 2001	County	Total Population - 2001	Percentage Rural - 2001
2223	Cloud	9985	22.26
2157	Gray	5946	36.28
2072	Republic	5646	36.7
2069	Thomas	8080	25.61
2027	Norton	5841	34.7
1933	Grant	7790	24.81
1760	Chautauqua	4270	41.22
1711	Phillips	5873	29.13
1685	Woodson	3758	44.84
1678	Harper	6335	26.49
1615	Ellsworth	6488	24.89
1580	Jewell	3591	44
1573	Lincoln	3547	44.35
1561	Stafford	4755	32.83
1518	Smith	4436	34.22
1513	Sherman	6528	23.18
1493	Stevens	5379	27.76
1480	Haskell	4285	34.54
1469	Mitchell	6778	21.67
1442	Rooks	5614	25.69
1359	Rawlins	2918	46.57
1334	Kearny	4562	29.24
1325	Sheridan	2726	48.61
1323	Chase	3033	43.62
1290	Barber	5163	24.98
1238	Meade	4647	26.64
1237	Scott	5002	24.73
1231	Elk	3189	38.6

Rural Population - 2001	County	Total Population - 2001	Percentage Rural - 2001
1220	Russell	7166	17.02
1216	Trego	3195	38.06
1176	Gove	3008	39.1
1174	Osborne	4345	27.02
1171	Cheyenne	3114	37.6
1105	Decatur	3432	32.2
969	Ness	3340	29.01
969	Graham	2845	34.06
953	Hodgeman	2154	44.24
949	Edwards	3325	28.54
945	Rush	3488	27.09
937	Wichita	2538	36.92
868	Lane	2091	41.51
829	Wallace	1706	48.59
780	Kiowa	3132	24.9
763	Hamilton	2671	28.57
715	Morton	3385	21.12
705	Stanton	2408	29.28
654	Logan	2957	22.12
581	Clark	2371	24.5
560	Comanche	1961	28.56
547	Greeley	1503	36.39
52	Wyandotte	157461	0.03

Copop2002RuralPercentOnly

Percentage Rural - 2001	County	Total Population - 2001	Rural Population - 2001
64.41	Jefferson	18610	11986
58.35	Jackson	12742	7435
56.03	Wabaunsee	6843	3834
54.85	Miami	28780	15787
50.82	Linn	9685	4922
48.94	Pottawatomie	18336	8974
48.61	Sheridan	2726	1325
48.59	Wallace	1706	829
46.57	Rawlins	2918	1359
45.31	Osage	16903	7658
44.98	Kingman	8512	3829
44.84	Woodson	3758	1685
44.49	Anderson	8190	3644
44.35	Lincoln	3547	1573
44.24	Hodgeman	2154	953
44	Jewell	3591	1580
43.62	Chase	3033	1323
42.4	Washington	6321	2680
42.38	Cherokee	22333	9466
42.05	Morris	6112	2570
41.79	Nemaha	10516	4395
41.51	Lane	2091	868
41.22	Chautauqua	4270	1760
40.74	Ottawa	6190	2522
39.4	Bourbon	15371	6056
39.1	Gove	3008	1176

Percentage Rural - 2001 County**Total Population - 2001 Rural Population - 2001**

38.6 Elk	3189	1231
38.06 Trego	3195	1216
37.96 Butler	60194	22852
37.75 Wilson	10235	3864
37.67 Greenwood	7771	2927
37.6 Cheyenne	3114	1171
37.43 Doniphan	8303	3108
36.92 Wichita	2538	937
36.7 Republic	5646	2072
36.64 Brown	10630	3895
36.39 Greeley	1503	547
36.31 Sumner	25749	9350
36.28 Gray	5946	2157
36.06 Marshall	10772	3884
35.63 Franklin	24943	8888
35.61 Coffey	8815	3139
35.02 Marion	13423	4701
34.7 Norton	5841	2027
34.54 Haskell	4285	1480
34.22 Smith	4436	1518
34.06 Graham	2845	969
33.1 Dickinson	19155	6340
33 Pawnee	6979	2303
32.83 Stafford	4755	1561
32.24 Atchison	16687	5380
32.2 Decatur	3432	1105
30.43 Clay	8771	2669
29.28 Stanton	2408	705

Percentage Rural - 2001 County**Total Population - 2001 Rural Population - 2001**

29.24 Kearny	4562	1334
29.13 Phillips	5873	1711
29.01 Ness	3340	969
28.99 Neosho	16759	4858
28.57 Hamilton	2671	763
28.56 Comanche	1961	560
28.54 Edwards	3325	949
28.17 Allen	14193	3998
27.78 Cowley	35929	9982
27.76 Stevens	5379	1493
27.26 Montgomery	35520	9681
27.15 Leavenworth	70261	19078
27.09 Rush	3488	945
27.02 Osborne	4345	1174
26.64 Meade	4647	1238
26.49 Harper	6335	1678
26.48 Geary	26799	7096
26.24 Shawnee	170080	44634
25.69 Rooks	5614	1442
25.61 Thomas	8080	2069
25.56 McPherson	29618	7570
25.53 Labette	22483	5740
25.21 Finney	40082	10105
24.98 Barber	5163	1290
24.9 Kiowa	3132	780
24.89 Ellsworth	6488	1615
24.81 Grant	7790	1933
24.73 Scott	5002	1237

Percentage Rural - 2001 County**Total Population - 2001 Rural Population - 2001**

24.5 Clark	2371	581
24.33 Pratt	9544	2322
24.11 Crawford	37927	9149
23.72 Riley	60368	14318
23.71 Reno	64237	15228
23.36 Rice	10588	2473
23.18 Sherman	6528	1513
22.26 Cloud	9985	2223
22.12 Logan	2957	654
22.1 Barton	27810	6147
21.67 Mitchell	6778	1469
21.12 Morton	3385	715
19.07 Harvey	33031	6298
17.44 Lyon	35560	6200
17.02 Russell	7166	1220
16.77 Ford	32314	5420
15.28 Ellis	27247	4163
12 Saline	53646	6436
11.51 Douglas	100005	11510
10.63 Seward	22434	2385
10.53 Sedgwick	455516	47956
3.26 Johnson	465058	15189
0.03 Wyandotte	157461	52



Local Government House Committee
Jene Vickrey – Chairperson

Dear Committee Members:

Butler County would like to thank you for this opportunity to testify on behalf of House Bill 2112. With the removal of population limits concerning implementation of Codes Courts, Butler County will be able to implement one of its highest priorities, which is the establishment of a Codes Court Program. The establishment of the program will have a significant impact on both the operations of the County and the constituents we serve. With Butler County's current growth and proximity to Sedgwick County, the demand for such a program, due to problems such as animal control, illegal dumping, and non-compliance with building codes has escalated. The demands on programs such as animal control has always been an issue in Butler County, and the only way possible during the stringent fiscal times is through a Codes Court program, which would allow the County to implement and enforce a licensing program.

Through the implementation of such a program, enforcement actions could be addressed separately from the County Attorney's Office and result in a significant reduction in cases in the County Attorney's Office. The establishment of such a program will ensure a safe and sanitary atmosphere for the residents in Butler County through regulation of the design, construction, use/occupancy of property, location and maintenance of all buildings, structures, and related equipment.

Speaking directly now to the change of language specified as part of House Bill 2112, Butler County will always support abolishment of population limits such as this in future statues. Butler County ranks in the top five counties in the State in rural population. As such when population levels such as this are placed in Bills, the majority of the counties affected have less rural population than Butler County and the intent is compromised. We have and always will be against population restriction in the establishment of policy effecting County Government. Residing in an urban area such as we do makes it essential to offer similar services such as Sedgwick County for economic stability and growth in our County. We support the changes proposed and appreciate the opportunity offered today to testify.

Sincerely,

William H. Johnson, Jr.
County Administrator
Butler County, Kansas

House Local Government
Date: 2-13-2003
Attachment # 4

William H. Johnson, Jr., County Administrator