

MINUTES OF THE SENATE ASSESSMENT AND TAXATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson David Corbin at 10:55 a.m. on February 4, 2003, in Room 519-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Senators Clark and Pugh

Committee staff present: Chris Courtwright, Legislative Research Department
April Holman, Legislative Research Department
Gordon Self, Revisor of Statutes Office
Shirley Higgins, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Senator James Barnett
Whitney Damron, City of Topeka

Others attending: See attached list.

Senator James Barnett requested the introduction of a bill on behalf of Chase County. The bill would allow Chase County the opportunity to raise the sales tax up to one percent upon voter approval for the purpose of refurbishing the county courthouse.

Senator Donovan moved to introduce the bill as requested by Senator Barnett, seconded by Senator Buhler. The motion carried.

Whitney Damron, representing the City of Topeka, requested the introduction of a bill which would authorize the City of Topeka to place before the voters a one-fourth cent sales tax increase to be used to finance the costs of rebuilding the Topeka Boulevard bridge. (Attachment 1)

Senator Goodwin moved to introduce the bill as requested by Mr. Damron, seconded by Senator Taddiken. The motion carried.

Senator Corbin reported that, as recommended by the 2002 Interim Committee on Assessment and Taxation, a joint taxation committee met to develop a bill concerning the issue of the property tax exemption for independent living units owned by not-for-profit nursing homes. The Revisor of Statutes subsequently drafted a bill as requested by the joint committee.

Senator Oleen moved to introduce the bill as drafted, seconded by Senator Goodwin. The motion carried.

Senator Oleen moved to introduce a bill which would provide that no city or county can opt out from the 20 mill property tax for school finance, seconded by Senator Lee. The motion carried.

Senator Corbin moved to introduce a bill which would reauthorize the 20 mill property tax for school finance and extend the residential exemption to the extent of \$20,000 for the next two years, seconded by Senator Donovan. The motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 5, 2002.

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REQUEST FOR BILL INTRODUCTION

TO: The Honorable David Corbin, Chair
And Members Of The
Senate Committee on Assessment and Taxation

FROM: Whitney Damron
On Behalf Of The
City of Topeka

RE: Citywide Retail Sales Tax for Rebuilding the Topeka Boulevard Bridge

DATE: February 4, 2003

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:

My name is Whitney Damron and I appear before you today to request introduction of legislation authorizing the City of Topeka to place before the voters of the City a ¼ cent sales tax increase to be used to finance the costs of rebuilding the Topeka Boulevard Bridge. Included with my written materials is the City's proposal to amend K.S.A. 12-187 (b) with a new Section (12) to allow this to come before the voters.

Committee members may have heard of the structural problems with this bridge. If you drive across the bridge, you will see access is currently limited to exclude large tractor-trailer and heavy trucks.

The City Attorney's office estimates this legislation would bring approximately \$5.5 million into the City for this project, should it be approved by the voters.

Thank you.

Whitney Damron

*Senate Assessment & Taxation
2-4-03
Attachment 1*

12-187. Countywide and city retailers' sales taxes; procedure for imposition; election required; rate; use of revenue; continuation in effect of certain taxes.

(a) (1) No city shall impose a retailers' sales tax under the provisions of this act without the governing body of such city having first submitted such proposition to and having received the approval of a majority of the electors of the city voting thereon at an election called and held therefor. The governing body of any city may submit the question of imposing a retailers' sales tax and the governing body shall be required to submit the question upon submission of a petition signed by electors of such city equal in number to not less than 10% of the electors of such city.

(2) The governing body of any class B city located in any county which does not impose a countywide retailers' sales tax pursuant to paragraph (5) of subsection (b) may submit the question of imposing a retailers' sales tax at the rate of .25%, .5%, .75% or 1% and pledging the revenue received therefrom for the purpose of financing the provision of health care services, as enumerated in the question, to the electors at an election called and held thereon. The tax imposed pursuant to this paragraph shall be deemed to be in addition to the rate limitations prescribed in K.S.A. 12-189, and amendments thereto. As used in this paragraph, health care services shall include but not be limited to the following: Local health departments, city, county or district hospitals, city or county nursing homes, preventive health care services including immunizations, prenatal care and the postponement of entry into nursing homes by home health care services, mental health services, indigent health care, physician or health care worker recruitment, health education, emergency medical services, rural health clinics, integration of health care services, home health services and rural health networks.

(b) (1) The board of county commissioners of any county may submit the question of imposing a countywide retailers' sales tax to the electors at an election called and held thereon, and any such board shall be required to submit the question upon submission of a petition signed by electors of such county equal in number to not less than 10% of the electors of such county who voted at the last preceding general election for the office of secretary of state, or upon receiving resolutions requesting such an election passed by not less than 2/3 of the membership of the governing body of each of one or more cities within such county which contains a population of not less than 25% of the entire population of the county, or upon receiving resolutions requesting such an election passed by 2/3 of the membership of the governing body of each of one or more taxing subdivisions within such county which levy not less than 25% of the property taxes levied by all taxing subdivisions within the county.

(2) The board of county commissioners of Anderson, Atchison, Barton, Butler, Cowley, Cherokee, Crawford, Ford, Jefferson, Lyon, Montgomery, Neosho, Osage, Ottawa, Riley, Saline, Seward, Wabaunsee, Wilson and Wyandotte counties may submit the question of imposing a countywide retailers' sales tax and pledging the revenue received therefrom for the purpose of financing the construction or remodeling of a courthouse, jail, law enforcement center facility or other county administrative facility, to the electors at an election called and held thereon. The tax imposed pursuant to this

paragraph shall expire when sales tax sufficient to pay all of the costs incurred in the financing of such facility has been collected by retailers as determined by the secretary of revenue. Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to allow the rate of tax imposed by Butler, Cowley, Lyon, Montgomery, Neosho, Riley or Wilson county pursuant to this paragraph to exceed or be imposed at any rate other than the rates prescribed in K.S.A. 12-189, and amendments thereto.

(3) (A) Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph, the result of the election held on November 8, 1988, on the question submitted by the board of county commissioners of Jackson county for the purpose of increasing its countywide retailers' sales tax by 1% is hereby declared valid, and the revenue received therefrom by the county shall be expended solely for the purpose of financing the Banner Creek reservoir project. The tax imposed pursuant to this paragraph shall take effect on the effective date of this act and shall expire not later than five years after such date.

(B) The result of the election held on November 8, 1994, on the question submitted by the board of county commissioners of Ottawa county for the purpose of increasing its countywide retailers' sales tax by 1% is hereby declared valid, and the revenue received therefrom by the county shall be expended solely for the purpose of financing the erection, construction and furnishing of a law enforcement center and jail facility.

(4) The board of county commissioners of Finney and Ford counties may submit the question of imposing a countywide retailers' sales tax at the rate of .25% and pledging the revenue received therefrom for the purpose of financing all or any portion of the cost to be paid by Finney or Ford county for construction of highway projects identified as system enhancements under the provisions of paragraph (5) of subsection (b) of K.S.A. 68-2314, and amendments thereto, to the electors at an election called and held thereon. Such election shall be called and held in the manner provided by the general bond law. The tax imposed pursuant to this paragraph shall expire upon the payment of all costs authorized pursuant to this paragraph in the financing of such highway projects. Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to allow the rate of tax imposed by Finney or Ford county pursuant to this paragraph to exceed the maximum rate prescribed in K.S.A. 12-189, and amendments thereto. If any funds remain upon the payment of all costs authorized pursuant to this paragraph in the financing of such highway projects in Finney county, the state treasurer shall remit such funds to the treasurer of Finney county and upon receipt of such moneys shall be deposited to the credit of the county road and bridge fund. If any funds remain upon the payment of all costs authorized pursuant to this paragraph in the financing of such highway projects in Ford county, the state treasurer shall remit such funds to the treasurer of Ford county and upon receipt of such moneys shall be deposited to the credit of the county road and bridge fund.

(5) The board of county commissioners of any county may submit the question of imposing a retailers' sales tax at the rate of .25%, .5%, .75% or 1% and pledging the revenue received therefrom for the purpose of financing the provision of health care services, as enumerated in the question, to the electors at an election called and held thereon. Whenever any county imposes a tax pursuant to this paragraph, any tax imposed

pursuant to paragraph (2) of subsection (a) by any city located in such county shall expire upon the effective date of the imposition of the countywide tax, and thereafter the state treasurer shall remit to each such city that portion of the countywide tax revenue collected by retailers within such city as certified by the director of taxation. The tax imposed pursuant to this paragraph shall be deemed to be in addition to the rate limitations prescribed in K.S.A. 12-189, and amendments thereto. As used in this paragraph, health care services shall include but not be limited to the following: Local health departments, city or county hospitals, city or county nursing homes, preventive health care services including immunizations, prenatal care and the postponement of entry into nursing homes by home care services, mental health services, indigent health care, physician or health care worker recruitment, health education, emergency medical services, rural health clinics, integration of health care services, home health services and rural health networks.

(6) The board of county commissioners of Allen county may submit the question of imposing a countywide retailers' sales tax at the rate of .5% and pledging the revenue received therefrom for the purpose of financing the costs of operation and construction of a solid waste disposal area or the modification of an existing landfill to comply with federal regulations to the electors at an election called and held thereon. The tax imposed pursuant to this paragraph shall expire upon the payment of all costs incurred in the financing of the project undertaken. Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to allow the rate of tax imposed by Allen county pursuant to this paragraph to exceed or be imposed at any rate other than the rates prescribed in K.S.A. 12-189 and amendments thereto.

(7) The board of county commissioners of Clay, Dickinson and Miami county may submit the question of imposing a countywide retailers' sales tax at the rate of .50% in the case of Clay and Dickinson county and at a rate of up to 1% in the case of Miami county, and pledging the revenue received therefrom for the purpose of financing the costs of roadway construction and improvement to the electors at an election called and held thereon. The tax imposed pursuant to this paragraph shall expire after five years from the date such tax is first collected.

(8) The board of county commissioners of Sherman county may submit the question of imposing a countywide retailers' sales tax at the rate of .25%, .5% or .75% and pledging the revenue therefrom for the purpose of financing the costs of the county roads 64 and 65 construction and improvement project. The tax imposed pursuant to this paragraph shall expire upon payment of all costs authorized pursuant to this paragraph in the financing of such project.

(9) The board of county commissioners of Cowley, Russell and Woodson county may submit the question of imposing a countywide retailers' sales tax at the rate of .5% in the case of Russell and Woodson county and at a rate of up to .25%, in the case of Cowley county and pledging the revenue received therefrom for the purpose of financing economic development initiatives or public infrastructure projects. The tax imposed

pursuant to this paragraph shall expire after five years from the date such tax is first collected.

(10) The board of county commissioners of Franklin county may submit the question of imposing a countywide retailers' sales tax at the rate of .25% and pledging the revenue received therefrom for the purpose of financing recreational facilities. The tax imposed pursuant to this paragraph shall expire upon payment of all costs authorized in financing such facilities.

(11) The board of county commissioners of Douglas county may submit to the question of imposing a countywide retailers' sales tax at the rate of .25% and pledging the revenue received therefrom for the purposes of preservation, access and management of open space, and for industrial and business park related economic development.

(12) The governing body of the City of Topeka may submit the question of imposing a citywide retailers' sales tax at the rate of .25% and pledging all revenue received therefrom to the City of Topeka for the purpose of paying the bonds issued for the financing of the costs of rebuilding the "Topeka Boulevard Bridge" and other infrastructure improvements associated with this project to the electors at an election called and held thereon. The tax imposed pursuant to this paragraph shall expire no later than the date the bonds issued to finance such project or refunding bonds issued therefore shall mature.

(c) The boards of county commissioners of any two or more contiguous counties, upon adoption of a joint resolution by such boards, may submit the question of imposing a retailers' sales tax within such counties to the electors of such counties at an election called and held thereon and such boards of any two or more contiguous counties shall be required to submit such question upon submission of a petition in each of such counties, signed by a number of electors of each of such counties where submitted equal in number to not less than 10% of the electors of each of such counties who voted at the last preceding general election for the office of secretary of state, or upon receiving resolutions requesting such an election passed by not less than 2/3 of the membership of the governing body of each of one or more cities within each of such counties which contains a population of not less than 25% of the entire population of each of such counties, or upon receiving resolutions requesting such an election passed by 2/3 of the membership of the governing body of each of one or more taxing subdivisions within each of such counties which levy not less than 25% of the property taxes levied by all taxing subdivisions within each of such counties.

(d) Any city retailers' sales tax in the amount of .5% being levied by a city on July 1, 1990, shall continue in effect until repealed in the manner provided herein for the adoption and approval of such tax or until repealed by the adoption of an ordinance so providing. In addition to any city retailers' sales tax being levied by a city on July 1, 1990, any such city may adopt an additional city retailers' sales tax in the amount of .25% or .5%, provided that such additional tax is adopted and approved in the manner provided for the adoption and approval of a city retailers' sales tax. Any countywide retailers' sales

tax in the amount of .5% or 1% in effect on July 1, 1990, shall continue in effect until repealed in the manner provided herein for the adoption and approval of such tax.

(e) A class D city shall have the same power to levy and collect a city retailers' sales tax that a class A city is authorized to levy and collect and in addition, the governing body of any class D city may submit the question of imposing an additional city retailers' sales tax in the amount of .125%, .25%, .5% or .75% and pledging the revenue received therefrom for economic development initiatives, strategic planning initiatives or for public infrastructure projects including buildings to the electors at an election called and held thereon. Any additional sales tax imposed pursuant to this paragraph shall expire no later than five years from the date of imposition thereof, except that any such tax imposed by any class D city after the effective date of this act shall expire no later than 10 years from the date of imposition thereof.

(f) Any city or county proposing to adopt a retailers' sales tax shall give notice of its intention to submit such proposition for approval by the electors in the manner required by K.S.A. 10-120, and amendments thereto. The notices shall state the time of the election and the rate and effective date of the proposed tax. If a majority of the electors voting thereon at such election fail to approve the proposition, such proposition may be resubmitted under the conditions and in the manner provided in this act for submission of the proposition. If a majority of the electors voting thereon at such election shall approve the levying of such tax, the governing body of any such city or county shall provide by ordinance or resolution, as the case may be, for the levy of the tax. Any repeal of such tax or any reduction or increase in the rate thereof, within the limits prescribed by K.S.A. 12-189, and amendments thereto, shall be accomplished in the manner provided herein for the adoption and approval of such tax except that the repeal of any such city retailers' sales tax may be accomplished by the adoption of an ordinance so providing.

(g) The sufficiency of the number of signers of any petition filed under this section shall be determined by the county election officer. Every election held under this act shall be conducted by the county election officer.

(h) The governing body of the city or county proposing to levy any retailers' sales tax shall specify the purpose or purposes for which the revenue would be used, and a statement generally describing such purpose or purposes shall be included as a part of the ballot proposition.