



City of Parsons
112 S. 17th Street
Parsons, Kansas 67357

Kansas House Taxation Committee
Written testimony in Opposition of SB 248
From the City of Parsons

March 9, 2023

Chairman Adam Smith and Committee members;

The City of Parsons joins countless cities across our state in **strongly opposing SB 248**. This bill not only ignores home rule designation, which is guaranteed in our state's constitution, but fails to take into consideration many factors the least of which is loss to general fund budgets of small rural communities.

Also ignored in this bill is the fact that local sales tax levies are voter approved. This bill undermines voters of a community who have gone to the polls and passed these levies for the specific purposes outline by the local community.

These communities already have to levy ad-valorum tax on their citizens and in many instances defer this property tax with the exact same sales tax you threaten to remove. The result of which, if this bill is passed in its current state, would mean higher property taxes to fund essential services to our residents.

Additional reasons to defeat this piece of legislation exist across our state including the many projects funded by special sales tax levies, also approved by voters, that will be negatively impacted. This includes special local incentives such as: TIF Districts, STAR Bond projects and CID Sales Tax Projects among others.

In conclusion, we urge you to vote against moving this extremely dangerous bill to the house floor in its current state as it poses a severe threat to the ability of local governments to provide for their residents.

Thank you for your consideration on NOT passing this to the full house.

Sincerely,

Deborah L. Lamb
City Manager

~ It's in our nature