



City of
VALLEY FALLS

Incorporated May 17, 1854

03/10/2023

SB 248

Opposite Testimony

Written Only

Chairman and members of the committee:

The City of Valley Falls is in opposition of SB 248. The City of Valley Falls is located at the crossing of K-16 and K-4 just 20 miles North of Topeka. Valley Falls is a third-class city with a population of 1,039 and an annual budget of \$2.5 million.

This bill is harmful to city governments as it cuts down on the sales tax base. The revenue replaced would then come from an increase in the mill levy. The City is skeptical of the State of Kansas replacing the city's lost revenues from the sales tax cut due to the State's history with the lack of follow through and funding of the LAVTR. If the State wants to decrease sales tax for residents, only the State's portion should be decreased. The local portion should be in the control of the local governments.

The City of Valley Falls recently built a new municipal pool which is being funded through sales tax. A cut in sales tax could result in the inability to make bond payments through the sales tax as promised to the residents. A majority of sales tax for the City of Valley Falls comes through food sales.

In conclusion, I am in complete opposition of SB 248. I believe this would be a detriment to local governments. While it cuts cost in one area, that revenue will have to be replaced elsewhere and ultimately increasing costs for the residents and businesses of this State.

Sincerely,

Audree Guzman

City Administrator

cityadmin@valleyfalls.org