



BUTLER COUNTY
ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT

January 29, 2025

House Committee on Local Government
Representative Emil Bernquist, Chairman

Dear Local Government Committee Members,

Butler County would like to thank Representative Blex for sponsoring HB 2145 and express its support of HB 2145, a bill relating to certain county fair boards and establishing the membership for the Butler County Fair Board through amendments to K.S.A. 19-2699.

Currently, by statute (K.S.A. 2-128,) Butler County is required to have one (1) representative per township on the Fair Board; in Butler County this amounts to twenty-nine (29) members. Due to difficulties getting members from each Township the Fair Board has added six (6) at large positions over time, making this a thirty-five (35) member board if all appointments were filled. Due to the size of the board, and problems with filling board positions, the County Commission believes it would be easier to have the Commission appoint members rather than filling positions filled through the process outlined in K.S.A. 2-128.

K.S.A. 19-2699 was written for Cloud County to address their Fair Board make up. Butler County would like to ask for an amendment of the existing law to allow the Butler County Commission to appoint members of the Fair Board instead of requiring one (1) from every township, thereby limiting the number of members on the board and ensuring positions are filled. The proposed language changes are similar to the requirements in Cloud County, which has three (3) County Commissioners, whereas Butler County has five (5) Commissioners, bringing Butler County's board total up to fifteen (15) instead of twelve (12.) Butler County hopes the modifications mentioned above meets with the Committee's approval and the Committee is able to move it forward to the House as a whole.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



William H. Johnson Jr.
Butler County Administrator

CC: County Commission

William H. Johnson, Jr., County Administrator