## **NEMAHA COUNTY TREASURER**

607 NEMAHA ST., SENECA, KS 66538 PHONE 785-336-2170 Opt 2 FAX 785-336-6000

February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025

To Senator Mike Petersen, Chair of Senate Transportation

RE: Support of Senate Bill 119

Senator Peterson and member of the Senate Transportation Committee, thank you for allowing me to offer my support of Senate Bill 119. I have worked in the County Treasurer's Office for the past 38 years. Currently, I am the Nemaha County Treasurer. My office works as an agent for the State of Kansas, KDOR, registering and titling vehicles.

The county currently receives \$.75 for each registration. Senate Bill 119 would increase this fee by \$5.00 for each registration for a total of \$5.75. The bill also is requesting an additional \$1.50 on title application, increasing the total to \$3.50 for the county share of title work. The registration fee of \$.75 has not been increased in the 38 years that I have been in the office. The cost of living and inflation has increased greatly in that time period.

The motor vehicle functions are a state mandated function that is provided by the counties working for the state. The cost of motor vehicle operations should come from the fees collected from everyone who uses the services. The burden of the services should not be funded by the county. From personal experience, if there is not an increase in the funding from the State of Kansas, our office will be forced to reduce staff. Our county commissioners have spoke to me about reduction in staff. This action will cause customer dissatisfaction and possible cuts in services we currently provide.

Thank you for your consideration of supporting Senate Bill 119.

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Janell Niehues Nemaha County Treasurer