



TO: Honorable Richard Carlson, Chairman Taxation Committee
FROM: Eileen King, Riley County Treasurer & Rep. of KCTA
DATE: January 26, 2012
RE: HB 2176

I am here in opposition to HB 2176 allowing municipalities more time to certify the amount of ad valorem tax to the County Clerks. I'm not sure of the reasoning for wanting the deadline extended, but it would cause problems for County Clerks and County Treasurers across the state. Many Clerk's offices are already in a time crunch to set mill levies and certify the tax roll to the County Treasurers by November 1 (KSA 79-1803). Almost every year Riley County is waiting on another county to give us levies, so we can set ours and apply the levies to the tax statements. In Riley County, we are usually still printing the tax statements on November 1, when we are supposed to be collecting the taxes. With the computerization of the tax process, we cannot collect taxes on a property until all of the tax statements are printed and the completed tax roll is transferred to us. Once we get the tax statements, we process them for any necessary changes and prepare them for mailing. We usually get our statements sent out by Veterans Day, which gives the taxpayers about 6 weeks before they are due. Any delay in the process of getting the information to us would delay the mailing and reduce the amount of time before they have to be paid. We do have until December 15 (KSA 79-2001) to mail the tax statements, but can you imagine the taxpayers response if they only get 5 days notice before they are due? The deadline of December 20 always hits people at a bad time and the more notice we give them of their liability, the more time they have to make appropriate plans. Our goal is to get the tax statements sent out as soon as possible, so we can start collecting the tax dollars, which we subsequently remit to the taxing entities on January 20.

Due to the concerns mentioned, I do not believe HB 2176 is in the best interest of the taxpayers of the State of Kansas.