

Jefferson County, Kansas

Linda M. Buttron, Jefferson County Clerk

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COUNTY OFFICES

Commissioners
863-2272

Clerk
863-2272

Attorney
863-2251

Sheriff
863-2351

Register of Deeds
863-2243

Treasurer
863-2691

Clerk of the
District Court
863-2461

Engineer
863-2211

Appraiser
863-2080

Noxious Weed
863-2581

Emergency
Preparedness
863-2247

Extension
863-2212

Planning & Zoning
863-2241

Ambulance
863-2278

Health
Department
863-2447

January 26, 2012

Honorable Representative Carlson
Chairman-House Taxation Committee
And Committee Members

RE: House Bill # 2176

Honorable Chairman Carlson & Committee Members,

I am testifying in opposition to the passage of this bill.

August 25th, it is an important date in the calendar that governs what a County Clerk does. I have been dealing with budgets, the assessment roll and tax levies for 27 years. This date works with the timeline we have to accomplish all that our jobs encompass. In 2011 eighty four (84) budgets were filed in my office. They must be checked for compliance with budget law and sometimes returned to the taxing entity for correction. This correction usually requires that the budget be republished. In a county with only a weekly newspaper that step is going to take a couple weeks in order to comply with the 10-day notice in the statutes. During even numbered years Clerks are also preparing for an election as well as managing the finances and employees of the County. Giving taxing entities another month to file their budgets will throw off the carefully constructed timeline and make it difficult for Clerks to get their tasks done in time for the mailing of tax statements and the submission of statistical abstract reports (which are utilized by the Legislature and other governmental agencies).

I would ask, what would be gained by another month? Budgets are typically prepared in July for August publication. At that point an entity would have 7 months of data to forecast the next year's budget. Trends for the year should be pretty well established in that time frame. Would you gain another month to implement changes imposed by the Legislature? I would propose that should sweeping changes in the budget process occur, a "temporary" waiver of the deadline be granted to those entities affected by the change.

I ask that you leave the August 25th deadline for submission of budgets as it is.

Thank you for your time,



Linda M. Buttron
Jefferson County Clerk and Election Officer

Current Jefferson County Timeline

- 7-Aug Primary Election
- 25-Aug Budgets filed with the County Clerk
- 15-Oct Certify valuations for joint districts to surrounding counties
- 22-Oct Certify levies for joint districts to surrounding counties
- 25-Oct Send file to printing company for printing tax statements
- 1-Nov Certify tax roll to County Treasurer
- 6-Nov General Election
- 8-Nov Send tax statements to taxpayers
- 15-Nov Certify abstract to Kansas Director of Property Valuation
- 15-Dec Mandatory deadline to have tax statements sent

**statutory deadlines are bolded*

**Changing the deadline leaves
2-1/2 weeks to complete the
work that needs 7 weeks**

August						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

September						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

October						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

November						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

December						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					