

State of Kansas
Senate Chamber

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HARVEY AND NE SEDGWICK COUNTIES

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VICE-CHAIR: NATURAL RESOURCES
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BASE SERVICES
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ENVIRONMENT
MEMBER: JOINT COMMITTEE ON KANSAS SECURITY

Chairman Donovan and members of the Senate Assessment and Taxation Committee:

In 2010, the Legislature passed a temporary 1-cent sales tax to prevent substantial cuts to the business infrastructure and other essential services during the worst of the state's economic downturn.

The temporary sales tax accomplished what it set out to do—kept funding in place to protect the infrastructure that our local business and families rely upon. It is our duty as elected officials to be guardians of taxpayer dollars. Given the current economic outlook, the time is right to consider an early repeal of the sales tax—not an extension of it.

As a former county commissioner, I understand the need to ensure our local governments have all the tools they need to meet the needs of our communities. The bill before you today, **SB 312**, does just that. It reverts authority back to our local units of government. The sooner we can give control back to our local officials, the better.

SB 312 will roll back the state sales tax rate to 5.7%, beginning January 1, 2013—six months early. This plan also ensures the ability of the Department of Transportation to continue upgrades and maintenance of roads and bridges across the state, so that our business can continue to get their goods to market quickly and efficiently.

The Legislature made a promise to Kansas taxpayers. We now have an opportunity to deliver early on that promise. I appreciate the opportunity to appear before you and I ask for your support of **SB 312**.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Carolyn McGinn', written in a cursive style.

Carolyn McGinn

State Senator—31st Senate District

Sn. Assmnt & Tax
2-16-12

Attachment # 1