



## KANSAS COUNTY TREASURERS ASSOCIATION

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TO: Honorable Roger Reitz, Chairman Local Government  
FROM: Eileen King, Riley County Treasurer & Rep. of KCTA  
DATE: February 14, 2012  
RE: SB 385

Chairman Reitz and members of the committee, I am here as a representative of the Kansas County Treasurers Association in opposition to HB 2431, changing the procedures for eliminating local elected officials. KSA 12-3903(b) sets out the procedures to follow if a county should chose to eliminate the elected positions of County Clerk, Register of Deeds and County Treasurer. There must be a public hearing with a public notice given at least 21 days prior to the hearing. Any elected official whose office would be eliminated must be given an opportunity to appear and offer testimony at such hearing. The vote must be done in a gubernatorial election year by a vote of the electorate. The elimination would take place at the termination of the elected term of office.

Kansans are very proud of their elected officials and should be given the opportunity to make that decision, rather than allow 2 or 3 County Commissioners to make the decision for everyone. Most counties have just 3 county commissioners, so a quorum of just 2 commissioners could make the decision. Clerks, Registers of Deeds and Treasurers are elected by the county as a whole. Commissioners are elected by district. Thus we are elected by 3 times as many constituents as any one commissioner.

As an elected official I can be honest with the Board of Commissioner and not fear for a bad evaluation and possibly my job. The various elected officials are charged with their duties independent of the commissioners. The commissioners are a policy making body, while the other officials are charged with carrying out the day to day business of the county and abiding by the state statutes that govern the office.

I ask for you to oppose SB 385. Thank you for the opportunity to speak to you and I will stand for questions.

Senate Local Government

2-14-2012

Attachment 5