

Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Ranking Minority member and committee members,

My name is Joel Porter the current Tournament Director of the Kansas BASS Nation. I am here today to show my support for Bill-HB2244.

I have been a Kansas boat owner for 20 years. Currently I own a 15 year old bassboat, worth \$9,000.00. The taxes on it for 2012, in Woodson County, were \$445.00.

In support for this bill and maybe convince you that it needs to be passed, I will tell you the story of my purchase of this boat 10 years ago.

At the time I was shopping for this last boat it had been my intention to buy a new boat. The boat I had owned the previous ten years was nearing 15 years old that was worth \$2,000.00. The taxes on it the last year I owned it were \$105.00. At that time I didn't realize how boats were being taxed and didn't know what a new boat cost in taxes. I had decided on buying a new 2003 bassboat from a boat dealer in KS. When I called about the taxes, in Woodson County, they told me they would be \$2,300.00 a year, almost \$200.00 a month. With the boat payment and insurance coverage, this was too much for my budget. After talking with the Woodson County appraiser's office, to find out what my budget might be able to afford, I then bought the 4 year old boat from an individual in Indiana, at half the price of the new one with the taxes being \$685.00 the first year.

I am here to say that paying that high of tax is not in line with the states that are our neighbors. When I bought my current boat 10 years ago, I was tempted to register it as an Oklahoma boat. I decided against it. That decision has cost me roughly \$4,000.00 or \$400.00 a year.

In essence the taxes that were going to be charged for owning the new boat kept me from buying a new boat from a KS boat dealer 10 years ago. I know when people are looking at buying a boat this is one of the major factors in their purchase.

Thank You for your time.