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CRAWFORD COUNTY
KANSAS

March 7, 2013


TO:  Kansas House Transportation Committee

FROM:  Joe Grisolano, Crawford County Treasurer


SUBJECT:  SB 96

Chairman Proehl and Committee members:

Thank you for allowing me to speak today.  I am here as the Treasurer for Crawford County to speak in support of SB 96.  This bill allows any Kansas County Treasurer the option of charging an additional fee of up to $5.00 per transaction for motor vehicle registrations or renewals.

The reason for this legislation is that county motor vehicle offices have additional work that has been transferred from the state due to the implementation of the DMVS computer system.  Many duties that used to be handled by state workers in Topeka are now done in county offices.  The bottom line is it is costing counties more to register vehicles than it did prior to the new system.

In Crawford County, we operate a satellite motor vehicle office in Pittsburg where a convenience fee of one dollar per transaction is charged as allowed by current Kansas Statutes.   As an elected County Treasurer, I would choose to increase the Pittsburg convenience fee if additional revenue was needed rather than charge an additional fee at the Courthouse.   SB 96 gives local control to each county to decide if they need to increase revenues to keep the motor vehicle offices operating in the black.  I think we would all agree that SB 96 is a better option than attempting to increase fees statewide.

In conclusion, I respectfully ask this committee to support SB 96.  This legislation presents a common sense approach for those counties who are having a difficult time keeping their motor vehicle operations in the black.    It provides local control to solve a problem where needed.  Thank you for your time and consideration of my testimony and allowing me to address you today.  I would be happy to answer any questions at this time.