

State of Kansas
Senate Chamber

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Testimony Regarding Senate Bill 165
Presented to the Senate Assessment and Taxation Committee
By Senator Michael O'Donnell

February 26, 2013

Members of the Tax Committee,

I'm writing you in support of SB165 which would allow Kansas counties to abate the property taxes for homes destroyed in natural disasters like a tornado. The freedom for the Board of County Commissioners to abate property taxes would be a huge benefit to their job responsibilities.

April of 2012 brought a terrible tornado to parts of Sedgwick County which caused entire neighborhoods to be leveled. Some of these neighborhoods were in economically disadvantaged areas - this impacted the amount of people who had insurance and they are still forced to pay property taxes on homes that were destroyed by the tornado. This bill has a retroactivity action that would allow the commission to start the abatement on December 31, 2011 in order to cover the April 2012 tornado.

This bill has my full support and is desperately needed!

For Kansas,

Michael O'Donnell

SN Assmnt & Tax

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Attachm't # 3