



FORD COUNTY CLERK
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March 12, 2013

Senator Ralph Ostmeier
Chairman, Senate Standing Committee on Federal and State Affairs
%Connie Burns, Committee Secretary
Room 136-E
Kansas State Capitol Building
Topeka, KS 66612

RE: SB 10

Dear Chairman Ostmeier and members of the committee:

I am submitting written testimony in opposition to SB 10.

Senate Bill 10 would take away our opportunity to charge for staff time when making copies. The charge of .25 per page is not nearly enough to cover the cost of the paper and the ink. The wear and tear on machines can take its toll and the small fee we collect helps to offset expenses on the machines.

When an unusual request is made it could take the better part of a day to complete that request and involve more than one staff member. When that happens, the work that these staff members do on a daily basis gets put on the back burner. Therefore, I oppose not charging for our time. Most requestors expect to pay something for their request as there are other parts of the government who are allowed to charge for copies and information.

Companies requesting information from the Register of Deeds will use this as way to put their work off on staff and could make several requests if the first 1 or 2 hours is free. There would be nothing limiting how they request their information. They are also selling this information to their clients and making money and if SB 10 were to pass they would be getting it for free.

We, as County Clerks, take minutes on a regular weekly, if not more, schedule. I do not see any benefit to having the Secretary of State's Office guide the procedure. If there is guidance needed, let the KCC & EOA develop a handbook for that information. As far as every taxing entity being required to record minutes, it will be very hard to make the Townships, Drainage Districts and other small entities comply with this.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony in opposition of SB 10. I respectfully request that the committee reject SB 10 for the reasons I have outline.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sharon Seibel".

Sharon Seibel
Ford County Clerk