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March 11, 2013

Committee on Federal and State Affairs

Honorable Senator Jake Laturner

RE: SB 10 Open meeting; minutes required; open records; charges limited

This testimony is in opposition to SB 10 especially pertaining to the charges limited. We understand the intent of this bill is to control outrageous charges made by some agency, but feel that setting limits on copy charges will have a large financial impact at county level. I am not only speaking for myself as Register of Deeds of Cherokee County, but also on behalf of the Kansas Register of Deeds Association.

I myself have not had the multitude of oil and gas researchers in my office as several other counties have seen over the last years, but feel that the impact that researchers have on monopolizing our time should not be taken lightly. Most of these researchers are not county residents nor are they even state residents that are requiring our services. To me SB 10 is going to take away well-deserved money from our local government that is struggling already to keep cost down for our residents.

I don't know where the problems are that influenced this bill, but I feel it will hurt the overall economy on county Level more than it will solve the problem.

Please oppose this bill as written, and help protect the taxpayer as well as the requestor in keeping a legitimate cost effective fee for work done.

I appreciate your attention and service to the public.

Barbara Bilke  
Cherokee County Register of deeds