

Written only testimony on HB 2268

To the House Federal and State Affairs Committee:

I am the owner of the Last Chance Store on Main Street, the Santa Fe Trail, Council Grove, Kansas.

My dear friend, Helen Prater, left this historic building to me when she passed away in 1994. It had been in her family for many years.

The Last Chance Store is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is a Certified Site on the Santa Fe Trail. My family has felt privileged to own this historic property for the past 21 years.

I am 81 years old, and my husband passed away in 2013. It is time to think of the future for this treasure. My friend always hoped that the Kansas State Historical Society would become the owner of this treasure, as they have the resources to preserve it properly for the history of Kansas and the Nation.

It is my hope that the State Historical Society will now take ownership and that it will fit in with the valuable other history of the Santa Fe Trail and the State currently preserved in Council Grove.

Sincerely,

Connie Essington
406 Hays
Council Grove, KS 66846

February 12, 2015