

To the chairman and Members of the local Government Committee

As a lifetime resident of Cherokee County I fully support the House Bill #2003. Seeing that the Island Annexation can presently be done without the vote of the people or even the voice of our County Commissioners hardly seems a fair process to the residents of the County. In our case taking a parcel of 160 acres of prime farm ground into the city limits of Galena, KS, which is 3.5 miles from their city limits, with the intentions of putting in a landfill. The location of the 160 acres is 2 mi north of Riverton School at Lostine Rd. and Hwy 400. This is a fairly high populated area, 2 mi. from the school, 2 housing developments within 1 mi. and 82 children living within a 1 mi. radius of the proposed site. This annexation all rests in the hands of 7 City Council Members.

With the Hb#2003 Michael Houser has introduced an amendment to the *Island Annexation Law*. Specifying that the counties having a population of less than 25,000 would not be subject to the Law as it stands now. The amendment would require the consent of the County Commissioners to pass such an annexation. As the law stands now it can cause much devastation to the people, changing their lives forever. Once again decisions of this magnitude should not rest in the hands of seven people.

With all due respect,
Margaret Jo Bailey