



TESTIMONY OF THE KANSAS ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES
TO THE HOUSE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE
ON HB 2164
FEBRUARY 3, 2015

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in support of HB 2164.

HB 2164 relates to an issue brought to our attention by Riley County. Current statute requires any construction of a sewer district that exceeds \$1,000 in cost to be let for competitive bid. While we support the competitive bid process, \$1,000 is a very low threshold to require a time-consuming competitive bid process for what might be an exigent circumstance when a sewer district needs immediate construction or reconstruction. K.S.A. 19-27a19 was written in 1983, over thirty years ago, with the \$1,000 standard.

While the bill lists \$15,000 as the new threshold requiring bids, KAC adopted a policy statement to raise the amount to \$25,000. This matches the amount in the general construction statute, K.S.A. 19-214 – that statute was amended in 2011 to raise the threshold requiring a bid to \$25,000. We would suggest amending HB 2164 to raise the standard to \$25,000 to create uniformity and consistency among the statutes on construction of buildings, roads and other structures.

I appreciate the opportunity to appear on HB 2164 and will stand for questions.

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