

STATE OF KANSAS
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

STATE CAPITOL, ROOM 512-N
TOPEKA, KANSAS 66612
(785) 296-7380
john.doll@house.ks.gov

2927 CLIFF PLACE
GARDEN CITY, KANSAS 67846
(620) 275-9304



COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS
INSURANCE
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JOHN DOLL
123RD DISTRICT

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

**House Bill Number 2162
February 5, 2015**

Members of the Committee and Fellow Representatives:

I am testifying regarding House Bill 2162. As the Representative of House District 123, all of my constituents live in the City of Garden City ("Garden City"). With regard to the proposed amendment, I have heard my constituents loud and clear, and I am here today to offer my support as their Representative.

The concept behind this proposed amendment is simple: it provides local governing bodies the authority to allow for schools, churches and colleges to exist in "core commercial districts" while also creating opportunities for small businesses to be attracted to "core commercial districts" without any fear of violating Kansas law.

As members of the Kanas Legislature, it is rare that we have an opportunity to pass legislation that results in an across-the-board positive impact. I would suggest that this proposed amendment achieves that unique result, as it allows for an often run-down area of our cities to be rejuvenated with new development without causing any readily apparent adverse impact. Further, the proposed amendment is drafted in a manner that provides each city of this state with the option to adopt the exemption or keep it intact. As a former Mayor of Garden City, I wholeheartedly support this type of local discretion, as it allows each unique city to make a decision that is best suited for its community.

I would like to thank you for allowing me this time to testify, and I am more than willing to stand for any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Doll", written over a large, stylized circular flourish.

John Doll
Representative, House District 123