

House Local Government Committee

COMMITTEE TESTIMONY

Please use this as a cover letter when submitting testimony.

BILL #: HB 2296
Date of Testimony/Hearing: 2-23-2015
Name of person testifying: Clay County Commissioners
Agency Represented: _____
Phone Number: 785-632-2552
Email: cyclerk@claycountykansas.org

PLEASE CHECK ONE:

- Proponent ✓
- Neutral _____
- Opponent _____

PLEASE CHECK ONE:

- Oral & written Testimony _____
- Written only Testimony ✓

Please complete cover form and place it on top of the 25 hard copies of testimony. Please deliver testimony to my office (149-s). If you are sending the testimony hard copies by Fed Ex, the delivery address is:

Maureen Stinson
300 SW 10th Ave, Suite 149-S
Topeka, KS 66612-1504
Ph. 785.296.1754

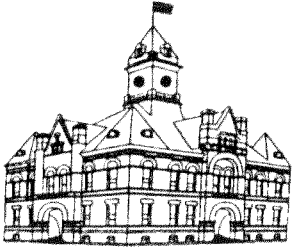
Please send the electronic copy of the testimony as a PDF file and name as: Bill#, Proponent, Opponent or Neutral, Last Name, Agency

Sample: HB 2164 Pro Wangemann KAC

Questions ?

Contact – Maureen Stinson ph. 785.296.1754

Email: maureen.stinson@house.ks.gov



CLAY COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

712 5TH, Suite 102
CLAY CENTER, KS 67432
(785) 632-2552 FAX (785) 632-5856

Michael W. Spicer, Jerry F. Mayo, and David M. Thurlow

February 20, 2015

RE: HB 2296—Public Building Commission

Dear Local Government Committee:

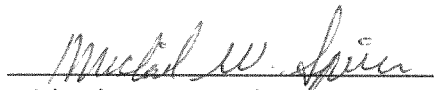
The Clay County Board of County Commissioners would like to be on record as being in support of HB 2296 which would give residents the privilege of voting on issues utilizing the "Public Building Commission". More over and over, local governmental entities are using "creative" methods to increase funding for certain projects. While we believe some of these methods are justified, we also believe the voter/taxpayer should have the right to vote on such matters.

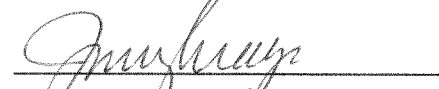
A Public Building Commission currently gives a city or county the ability to circumvent the debt restraints and increase the ultimate debt load on the local taxpayer. Kansas Statutes place a limit on the amount of debt a governmental entity can incur. These limits were legislated to provide some protection to the local taxpayer from a governmental body who may have become too aggressive in their need for borrowing capacity. The Public Building Commission has its place, BUT regardless of whether it's a local city council, county commission, or public building commission, it's all a debt load on the local property owners. Therefore, allowing the public to vote on a Public Building Commission issue provides the needed checks and balances for the public. An election forces the issue into the public comment arena and provides a forum for good discussion and examination of the issue.

We would urge you to act favorably upon HB 2296.

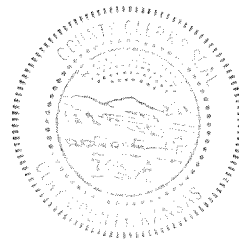
Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,


Michael W. Spicer, Chairman


Jerry F. Mayo, Member


David M. Thurlow, Member




Attest: Kayla Wang, County Clerk