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Chairman Marvin Kleeb, House Taxation Committee

From: Casie Risley, City of Caldwell-City Administrator

Re: Written Testimony Supporting HB 2609

Dear Chairman Kleeb,

I am writing in support of HB 2609. This bill keeps the effective date of January 2018, changes the instrument to measure inflation, requires a signed petition by 10% of the electorate to trigger an election, and would add numerous exemptions.

As budgeting gets tougher each year for municipal governments, limiting the tools available to cities in levying taxes to meet the unique needs of each, could have crippling effects on small Kansas cities, like Caldwell. I strongly believe that control of our local governments, should remain the responsibility of every municipality's governing body, who are elected to serve the fine people in these communities and are tax payers themselves in his or her respective community.

To your success,

Casie S. Risley

City Administrator