



Kansas Sheriffs Association

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Sheriff Sandy Horton, Ret., Executive Director

Supporting Testimony for House Bill 2609

March 9, 2016

Chairman Marvin Kleeb and Committee Members –

The Kansas Sheriffs' Association presents this supporting testimony for House Bill 2609 regarding the property tax lid. This bill still allows a public vote but without the unintended consequences that undermine local control, which could lead to unintended consequences for Kansas Sheriffs. This bill will help county sheriffs deal with:

- Unanticipated medical costs
 - Major medical expenses – heart attack, organ transplant, high risk pregnancy
 - Contagious diseases
 - Pre-custody and in-custody inmate injuries
- Unanticipated investigations
 - Johnson County Jewish Community Center shooting
 - Hesston active shooter

HB 2609 is particularly important for law enforcement because it:

- **Maintains the exemption for judgements and defense of legal actions**
- Maintains the exemption for new expenditures specifically mandated by federal or state law:
 - Mental Health requirements
 - Proposed bill mandating 48 hour jail time for domestic violence offenses
 - Driving while suspended - municipal cases submitted to District Court with costs to the County
 - Sexual Predator Act regulations
 - Civil commitments, reviewed every six months, no pre-determined release date
 - Juvenile Justice local programming

/s/ Sheriff Frank Denning
KSA Legislative Chair