

John Hollister Golden

PO Box 330 - Goodland, Ks 67735 785-899-5411

March 10, 2016

Dear Chairman KleeB and Members of the Committee on Taxation,

My name is John Golden, a resident of the Great State of Kansas, and an active participant in State-wide activities. My service to Kansas started as a Page in the Kansas House at age 12 and continued as a Kansas Page to the 1948 National Republican Convention in Philadelphia. Later, I was active as a Young Republican. The highlight of this period was the election of Ned Cushing of Downs, as the National President at the Denver Convention in about 1958. I had the privilege to serve Kansas as a Legislator in the early 1960s for three terms. The most educational function was as a member of the Ways and Means Committee where we saw all that it takes to support Kansas! I served on the Sherman County Commission as Chairman for 7 years in the late 70s and early 80s.

Because of my prior experience in the Kansas Legislature, I realized the importance of being active in the area so I became involved with an eighteen county group that assisted the counties with economic development and other services of importance to improve Kansas for eight years giving advice and assistance to those who were foresighted enough to grasp the opportunity. Later it became necessary to have 14 counties in Kansas buy 467 miles of the Rock Island Railroad to provide rail service to move produce to the market place. This occurred in the early 80s. I served as Secretary for the Mid-States Port Authority for about six years and then as Chairman since 1987.

My point in reviewing Kansas history is that the state only improves itself by positive action. When people are anti-community, nothing is ever accomplished. We as a Great State need to be aggressive in improving all facets of service for the people of Kansas. We must be active in improving education, transportation and public service for the Great Community of Kansas.

To have a Great State is the goal of Kansas not the reverse of that. As a result we, need to wake up and do everything we can to put our State in a positive financial as we were in the past. Please folks, I ask you to turn this Great Machine into a Positive Mode. Help this Great State to assume a position of leadership. You Legislators assembled here have the means to lead Kansas to a better financial position. Let us be the Great State that we have been in the past. Provide the revenue necessary for the People to have adequate services.

GOODLAND... ..on the Topside of Kansas

John Hollister Golden

PO Box 330 - Goodland, Ks 67735 785-899-5411

In recent years, I have become concerned because the most reliable people in our state have moved to a less responsive roll by not participating in the financial support of our community's needs. I have paid State income tax in the past that was in the \$70,000 range and now I only pay about \$1,000. Please raise that tax for the people of means. The trickle-down effect has never worked. The more fortunate people of high income do better when they are paying more tax because they can afford it.

If transportation and education are doing well, then everyone in Kansas is doing better because we have more activity. Remember, more money is injected locally when we are spending to reduce income.

The State of Kansas has done everything wrong in not taxing our assets. Give us pride again in all of our communities by taxing the people, such as myself, who can afford to contribute to a better Kansas.



John Golden
Goodland, KS

Proud to be a Kansan!