March 9, 2015

Testimony Before the Senate Assessment and Taxation Committee

SB 316

By Lon Smith, President

Chairman Donovan and members of the Committee:

The Wichita Independent Business Association/Kansas Independent Business Coalition represents hundreds of independent (not publicly held) businesses across the state. The majority of our members are small businesses. We oppose SB 316, the acceleration of the property tax and believe that this bill is not needed.

In a recent member poll, WIBA members indicated that they support the property tax lid for local municipalities. However, WIBA members do not support the acceleration of the property tax lid to 2016. This acceleration is not workable for local cities and counties and could put into jeopardy many city programs that WIBA members support such as economic development and business development initiatives.

WIBA members thank you for your time and consideration of the issue and encourage additional study and review of this bill.