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TESTIMONY

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Senate Commerce Committee

Hearing on SB84

Rehabilitation of Abandoned and Nuisance Housing

Thursday, Feb. 5, 8:30 a.m

The City of Wichita supports the passage of SB84 as another tool in our ongoing battle against neighborhood blight.

Citizens of Wichita, as well as the entire state, deserve the opportunity to enjoy life in neighborhoods that are not scarred by blighted and abandoned properties. Unfortunately, those who take pride in maintaining their homes and neighborhoods, no matter what income level, are often victims of this chronic problem. These eyesores of decrepit property diminish surrounding property values, accumulate trash and debris and become a magnet for illegal activity.

SB84 may not be the final answer to the problem, but it is a progressive step towards improving the administrative process that municipalities can use to improve blighted neighborhoods.

Passage of SB84 will also serve as a catalyst for further conversation among Kansas communities to find common sense solutions to problem that exists from border to border.