

State of Kansas

Senate Chamber



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Testimony in support of SB 476

Senate Federal & State Affairs Committee, Chair, Senator Ralph Ostmeyer,
Ranking Member, Senator Faust-Goudeau

Good Morning Mr. Chairman and other distinguished Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to speak in support of SB 476

It is my honor today to speak about the importance of passing SB 476

SB 476 is an important measure to increase transparency and accountability in Bourbon County, Kansas. It was important to me in drafting this bill that it be as narrowly focused as possible. I have no desire to implement this policy throughout the state. However, in Bourbon County there is an issue with fire district boundaries crossing into two townships. There have been allegations of misconduct made and increasing confusion for those that are to be served by the fire district. This bill will allow the elected county commission to be the auditing agency for fire districts. The Bourbon County Commission unanimously voted to support this bill with two suggestions. That it only apply to rural fire districts not fire departments located within a municipality and that the audit cost would be evenly divided between each township the fire district covers. I ask that you support the people of my district and vote for this bill.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jacob LaTurner".

Jacob LaTurner
Kansas Senator, District 13