



DOUGLAS COUNTY TREASURER

Paula Gilchrist, Treasurer

1100 Massachusetts
P.O. Box 884
Lawrence, KS 66044-0884

Baldwin Satellite

112 8th Street
Baldwin City Market
8 - 11 a.m., 12 - 4 p.m. Monday - Friday
2nd full week of each month

South Satellite

27th Street & Iowa
Park Plaza Shopping Center
8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Monday - Friday

West Satellite

6th Street & Lawrence Ave.
Dillon's Store
7 a.m. - 6 p.m. Tuesday - Friday

Motor Vehicle 785-832-5273 • Real Estate and Property Tax 785-832-5178 • www.douglas-county.com

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Tuesday, February 24, 2015

Senate Bill 215

Chairman Peterson and members of the Committee,

As Douglas County Treasurer with responsibility for motor vehicle operations I thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony in favor of Senate Bill No. 215.

The broadly accepted stereotype of a motor vehicle office is waiting in line, but passage of SB 215 would help shorten that line.

Vehicle registration is staggered across the months of the year based on the first letter of your last name, and the last day of any month is the deadline for all that month's registrations. And most of us hang on to our money for as long as we can. I certainly do. But the real reason people stand in line on the last day of the month is to get that little sticker to put on their license plate to avoid a ticket or fine.

I pay a lot of my bills on line. I can sit down on the due date and get immediate credit for my payment. No late fees. No consequences. No court appearance. Over the last few years the number of people using Webtags, the State's on-line vehicle registration renewal portal, has steadily increased. But, if you pay online through Webtags on the last day of the month, you can be ticketed by law enforcement until your sticker (decal) arrives in your home mailbox. Webtags processes your payment quickly, but it will take at least two full days, weekends and holidays add extra, for your sticker to arrive.

We appreciate law enforcement's support of the proposed change, which would allow a vehicle operator to use a printed receipt of payment, made on or prior to the expiration date, as proof of legal registration for up to ten calendar days after the registration deadline. This window would allow adequate time for the sticker (decal) to be delivered and adhered to the license plate. Allowing taxpayers to pay on the last day of the month without standing in line is a definite win for taxpayers, and our staff. We hope you agree.

I respectfully request that this legislation be advanced from this committee for further action. Thank you for your attention.

Respectfully submitted,

Paula Gilchrist

Douglas County Treasurer