



Kansas Sheriffs Association

PO Box 1122, Pittsburg, KS 66762

Phone: (620)230-0864

Fax: (620)230-0866

Sheriff Sandy Horton, Ret., Executive Director

OPPOSITION TESTIMONY

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Chair Ty Masterson and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means -

The Kansas Sheriffs' Association provides this written testimony in opposition to Senate Bill 403 - An act concerning municipalities; relating to traffic citations and limitations on revenue generation.

Section 1 limits the revenue from traffic infractions to 10% of a city's general revenue, with excess of that amount being sent to the State. Unfortunately, some cities may try to encourage law enforcement to increase their citations and fine production to be near the 10% threshold. Many municipal Police Departments also conduct enforcement on state and federal highways within their jurisdictions. Should they conduct less highway enforcement, it would fall to the Kansas Highway Patrol or to Kansas Sheriffs.

Section 2 would transfer 70% of all fines generated from violations on the "national network of highways," defined as "the interstate system, other United States designated highways and all state highways." This is problematic not only in record keeping, but also in the impact to larger cities with significant lengths of highways running through their cities.

Section 6 (b) states, "A person shall not be assessed costs for the administration of justice described in subsection (a) if such person makes an appearance, waiver, plea and payment in accordance with K.S.A. 12-4305(c), and amendments thereto." As you are aware, the reduction of court costs would tremendously reduce the funding for KLETC and CPOST state-wide, since the vast majority of municipal traffic cases would fall under this category. There are many Sheriff's Offices in the State of Kansas who also provide contract law enforcement services for municipalities within their counties.

Thank you.

/s/ Sheriff Frank Denning
KSA Legislative Chair