
Office of County Treasurer Joe Grisolano

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TO: Kansas House Appropriations Committee

FROM: Joe Grisolano, Crawford County Treasurer

SUBJECT: HB 2068

Chairman Waymaster and Committee members:

Thank you for allowing me to speak today. I am here on behalf of the Kansas County Treasurers Association to speak in opposition of HB 2068 due to the section that allows the Secretary for Children and Families to place a stop on vehicle registration applications and renewals for people in arrears with child support payments. A mechanism for collection is already in place as Kansas law currently allows a lien to be placed on vehicles owned by someone who is at least 30 days behind in paying child support.

As county treasurers, our main duty is collection and distribution of property taxes for all taxing entities. If a treasurer cannot allow a vehicle owner to register or renew their vehicle and collect motor vehicle taxes and registration fees, all entities suffer. This includes the state of Kansas, counties, cities, schools and all other local units of government. County treasurers' offices across the state have taken on additional duties transferred from the state due to the DMVS computer system. In most cases this has been done without additional revenue or staffing increases. If HB 2068 is implemented, it will become more difficult for offices to serve customers without slowing the process and causing more delays.

Forty Kansas counties border another state and an additional thirty-one are one county away from those states. If a county treasurer stops customers from registering or renewing vehicles for back child support, we are taking a risk customers will make a short drive to another state to register their vehicles and Kansas will lose out on all motor vehicle taxes and fees. This impacts all units of government from the state down.

I respectfully ask this committee to not approve HB 2068 due to the section that covers vehicle registrations, especially since Kansas law already has a system to attach liens on vehicles owned by someone with child support payments in arrears. The collection and distribution of money is the main duty of all 105 county treasurers, we should not be involved in child support enforcement. Please allow treasurers to continue to collect and distribute tax dollars without this interference. I would be happy to answer any questions at the appropriate time.