



EL DORADO

THE FINE ART OF LIVING WELL

March 23, 2017

House Committee on Local Government

Re: Testimony in Support of HB 2404

The City of El Dorado wishes to express its support for House Bill 2404 concerning abandoned and blighted properties. This bill, a result of negotiations between the Kansas League of Municipalities, Kansas Association of Counties and other interested groups, is important to cities because it provides opportunity to deal with non-responsive property owners and it will also enable us to rehabilitate properties where we are able.

Housing is one of the biggest concerns for the City of El Dorado, and costly efforts to combat “blight,” are ongoing. There are nearly 400 vacant properties in the City; many of which meet the definition of “abandoned,” as defined by the State of Kansas. Attached are photos of four such properties, within city limits that meet this criteria. These properties are in various states of disrepair including roofing issues, broken windows, and porches that are beyond repairable condition. Unfortunately, many other properties in El Dorado have similar characteristics.

Abandoned and “blighted” properties decrease property values, reduce economic and community development opportunities and deter from best practices of land use. For all these reasons, your support for HB 2404 is strongly appreciated.

Sincerely,

David B. Dillner
City Manager
City of El Dorado, KS

Encl: 1

DD/ts



Vacant for 10 Years



Vacant for 10 Years



Vacant for 1 Year



Vacant for 5 Years