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"The City Beautiful"

May 8, 2017

Date: May 9, 2017

To: Chairman Steven Johnson and the House Taxation Committee Members

From: Kerry Rozman, City Clerk, City of Clay Center Subject: Written Testimony in Support of HB 2424

Honorable Chairman Johnson:

I am writing to you to consider exempting employee benefits from the tax lid for Kansas cities. The City of Clay Center experienced a 35% increase in health insurance for the 2015-2016 year, a 15% increase for the 2016-2017 year and a 3.5% increase for the 2017-2018 year. There is no way that we will be able to continue this benefit if it is not excluded from the tax lid.

Additionally, our equipment is needing to be replaced. We have been trying to put aside monies in reserves but have been unable to do so to keep the mill levy down. I am sure we are not unique in this situation. There will come a time when the band aids will simply no longer work.

It is imperative that consideration be given to excluding employee benefits from the tax lid and your consideration is certainly appreciated.

Thank you,

Kerry Rozman

City Clerk