



WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY

**Testimony of John Smith, Stanton County Commissioner
Before the House Committee on Taxation
House Bill No. 2367
March 13, 2019**

Member Counties

Barber

Barton

Clark

Ellis

Finney

Ford

Gove

Grant

Gray

Hamilton

Harper

Haskell

Hodgeman

Kearny

Kiowa

Lane

Logan

Meade

Morton

Ness

Norton

Rawlins

Rice

Rush

Russell

Scott

Seward

Sherman

Stanton

Stevens

Thomas

Trego

Wallace

Wichita

Chairman Johnson and Members of the Committee:

Kansas Legislative Policy Group (KLPG) would like to thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony today. KLPG is a non-partisan, non-profit organization comprised of elected commissioners representing the collective interests of 34 rural Kansas counties. We appreciate the opportunity to submit remarks in support of House Bill No. 2367.

House Bill No 2367, by amending the local ad valorem tax reduction fund (LAVTR) and county and city revenue sharing fund (CCRSF) statutes, permits the distribution of state general funds to assist a county in the new construction of road or bridge improvements, as approved by the Secretary of Transportation.

Historically, LAVTR and CCRSF transfers have been an important tool for counties to keep property taxes manageable and provide taxpayers relief. However, no transfers have been made since 2004.

Like all units of government, counties are challenged by the necessity of providing the required services to our residents, within our limited and sometimes declining resources. Transportation projects help our communities grow and prosper, but sometime we all have had to forego that growth and needed maintenance due to funding concerns.

House Bill No 2367 is a great step in the right direction for our future. As that State moves forward on the creation of a new transportation plan these funds will be valuable assistance on local transportation projects.

Thank you for your consideration and the opportunity to present this written testimony to the Committee. I encourage you to consider House Bill No. 2367 favorably.

John Smith
President