

DOUGLAS COUNTY TREASURER

Paula Gilchrist

County Treasurer

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Testimony in support of:

House Bill 2180: Changing certain registration and title fees on vehicles and disposition of funds

February 2019

Dear Sen. Petersen, Rep. Proehl, and distinguished members of the Senate and House Transportation Committees,

More than eighty years ago the Kansas Legislature entered an agreement with County Treasurers to work as sub-agents of the State to provide vehicle support and services in each of the one hundred and five Kansas counties. A fee-per-transaction special fund was created as compensation for their efforts and expenses.

Over the past two decades the State has awarded Treasurers small, piecemeal fee increases that have not benefitted all counties equally and have not covered expenses. In the absence of legislative fee increases Treasurers have been forced to either reduce their level of service or rely on financial assistance from local property taxes and county coffers.

HB 2180 is introduced to you today as a solution to this ongoing problem. This proposal represents the work, ideas and dedication of Leadership from both the House and Senate Transportation Committees, the Kansas Department of Revenue, and the Kansas County Treasurers Association. The Bill details a simplified, per-transaction, flat-fee structure that would eliminate the facility or satellite fee at certain locations; would be more transparent for our customers; and better provide Treasurers adequate revenue for operations. HB 2180 does not increase State or County taxes and would not impact State Revenues.

I urge you to vote in favor of HB 2180 and the adequate funding of a state and county partnership that has successfully provided motor vehicle services at the local level since 1937. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

Paula Gilchrist Douglas County Treasurer