



DICKINSON COUNTY CLERK

BARBARA M JONES



109 E 1ST Street
P.O. Box 248--Abilene, KS 67410
Office: 785-263-3774 Fax: 785-263-2045

February 4, 2020

Honorable Kansas State Senator Caryn Tyson, Chairman and Distinguished Members of the Committee

RE: SB 294

Thank you for your time in allowing me to express my opposition to SB 294. The bill as currently written seems to be expensive, confusing and difficult to implement. Using current year values with the prior year mill levy doesn't seem to be a very accurate figure to present to a taxpayer.

Each entity currently publishes the date and time for the public hearing of the budget so taxpayers can voice concerns and questions. They get very little or no feedback at these hearings. Sending a notice to each taxpayer, at the cost of the entity, would create a financial burden to the entity and would be time consuming for our office. Not to mention trying to coordinate hearings with districts that cross county lines without overlapping the hearings.

Dickinson County has 146 taxing units. One township alone has 13 tax units and each tax unit is different. Example:

Jefferson Township tax unit 77

State

County

Township

USD 473 (crossover with 1 county)

Watershed #32 (crossover with 1 county)

Regional Library (several counties)

Gypsum Valley Fire #1 (crossover with 1 county)

Ebenezer Cemetery #20

Jefferson Township tax unit 082

State

County

Township

USD 473 (crossover with 1 county)

Watershed #32 (crossover with 1 county)

Regional Library (several counties)

Gypsum Valley Fire #1 (crossover with 1 county)

Elmo #24 Cemetery

These people could possibly receive 7 different letters. There is another watershed that involves 3 other counties besides mine. Dickinson is the home county for 5 school districts and 4 of those cross county lines.

I appreciate your time and consideration on my comments in opposition of SB 294.

Respectfully,

Barbara M. Jones

Barbara M. Jones

Dickinson County Clerk/Election Official