



**CITY OF
CHEROKEE, KANSAS**

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

MAYOR _____ Dale Thompson
CITY CLERK _____ Marianne Kossman
TREASURER _____ Becky Green

March 6, 2020

To: Chairwoman Caryn Tyson and Senate Assessment and Taxation
Committee Members

From: Marianne Kossman, Cherokee City Clerk & Dale Thompson, Mayor

RE: Written only Testimony in Opposition to SB 396

Chairwoman Tyson and Committee Members, thank you for the opportunity to testify in opposition to SB 396 on behalf of the City of Cherokee.

According to our information, the City of Cherokee receives approximately \$60,000 from the county sales tax. We are very distressed to hear that the passage of this bill could have the potential to decrease the amount of money we receive from the county sales tax. We are a 3rd class City with a population of approximately 750. We depend on the sales tax distributions to help pay for much needed repairs and upkeep on an aging water plant, water tower and street maintenance and upgrades. We are currently repaying a KDHE Loan on the Sewer Lagoon upgrades. We also have lease purchase agreements on a Police Station and Storm Shelter. If there were changes in the sales tax distributions, it could greatly impact the city's ability to keep the streets repaired, perform upgrades on the water plant and tower and maintain debt repayment.

Evidently, the current formula has been working since it went into effect in 1978, so we see no need to change it now.

Based on this testimony, the City of Cherokee requests that you not approve SB 396.

Thank you for allowing us to make a written statement opposing SB 396.

Sincerely,

Marianne Kossman
Cherokee City Clerk

Dale Thompson
Mayor