

# Help The County Taxpayer!

Keri Strahler  
1015 NE Kellam Ave., Topeka, Kansas 66616  
(785) 207-8688 [keri.strahler@gmail.com](mailto:keri.strahler@gmail.com)  
Proponent for SB 252

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Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee  
Kansas State Capitol  
Room 118-N  
300 SW 10th Street  
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Chairman Suellentrop and Committee Members:

SHAWNEE COUNTY JAIL	
YEAR	TOTAL OFF-SITE MEDICAL EXPENDITURES
2019	\$ 931,420.04
2018	\$ 771,363.43
2017	\$ 797,310.13
2016	\$ 706,003.89
2015	\$ 667,305.39
2014	\$ 626,785.81
2013	\$ 638,794.92
2012	\$ 897,050.60
2011	\$ 660,748.16
2010	\$ 614,776.19
Total	\$ 7,311,558.56

I am excited that SB 252, the Medicaid expansion bill will cover inmate overnight hospitalizations.

Over the last nine years Shawnee County taxpayers have paid \$7 million for inmate medical expenses outside of the county jail, to include overnight hospitalizations. Bringing down federal dollars to help with this expense will broaden the tax base to pull from and relieve a burden on the county taxpayer.

I have it on good authority that community mental health centers will be asking you for \$8.7 million this session. If

SB 252 becomes law, county dollars will be freed up for community mental health center requests while you will be reducing inmate overnight hospitalization costs for county taxpayers.

Please send this bill to the Senate floor for debate and thank you.

Sincerely,  
/s/ **Keri Strahler**