Approved	On:		
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Minutes of the House Committee on Assessment and Taxation. The meeting was called to order by E. C. Rolfs, Chairman, at 9:00 a.m. on March 26, 1986 in room 519 South at the Capitol of the State of Kansas.

The following members were absent (excused):

Representatives Rolfs, Roe, Patterson

Committee staff present:

Tom Severn, Legislative Research Melinda Hanson, Legislative Research Don Hayward, Reviser of Statutes Millie Foose, Committee Secretary

Senator Allen spoke as a proponent for SB-516, an act relating to sales taxation; exempting sales of new mobile homes. He explained the bill and said the fiscal impact would be approximately \$400,000. Senator Allen believes adoption of this bill would place manufacturers of mobile homes on a more equal footing with competitors.

Terry Humphrey, Executive Director of Kansas Manufactured Housing Institute, spoke in support of SB-516. (Attachment 1) She said this would benefit many first-time home buyers and would help create a more favorable environment for the industry to market its product.

Bill Ewert, Division Manager of Skyline Corporation in Halstead, also testified as a proponent. He believes it is important for the future of the industry to have sales tax parity with the site built housing market. (Attachment 2)

Dick Barrett, General Manager of Citation Homes, Ottawa, testified that in 1971 there were 27 manufactured housing plants in Kansas and today there are only 9. (Attachment 3) He believes that marketing factors such as sales tax have contributed to their difficulties.

Lionel Clark, representing Kit Manufacturing Company, of McPherson, asked for equal treatment with the rest of the housing industry, (Attachment 4) He said that reduction of the sales tax would not solve all their problems, but it would help.

Don Christman, co-owner of Wilcox Homes and RV Center, Topeka, explained the difference the reduction of sales tax might have on the consumer or the consumer's point of view. He said this would affect many retired people as well as first-time buyers. (Attachment 5)

Larry Landrith, representing the Coleman Company, spoke as a proponent of SB-516, saying it would have a beneficial effect on the manufacturing housing industry in Kansas. (Attachment (6) He believes passage of this bill would be a specific, effective economic development measure for Kansas.

Marty Gold, V.P. and Manager Consumer Loan Department, First National Bank, Topeka, spoke as a proponent of SB-516 and gave an illustration how this might affect a customer who purchases a manufactured home at a price of \$20,000. (Attachment 7)

A. P. Janatello, General Manager Schult Homes Corporation, of Plainville, was not present but submitted written testimony outlining some of the benefits his firm has originated in the Plainville territory. They employ 92 people representing an annual payroll of over \$1,300,000 as well as many fringe benefits. He believes adoption of SB-516 would be a positive step in the Kansas economy. (Attachment 8)

Otis Lemon, Senior Vice President of Commerce Bank & Trust, Topeka, spoke in support of SB-516. (Attachment 9) He thinks there is an unfair tax situation between manufactured and onsite housing and it is time to even the score.

Scott Braden, representing Green Tree Acceptance Corporation, speaking on behalf of his finance company in support of SB-516, stressed that finance companies are becoming increasingly concerned with the unfair tax situation. They feel they could qualify more people if the situation were changed.

The minutes of March 26 were approved by the committee.

There being no further business, the chairman adjourned the meeting.

James Lowther, Chairman



KANSAS MANUFACTURED HOUSING INSTITUTE

112 SW 6th • Suite 204 • Topeka, Kansas 66603 • (913) 357-5256

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HOUSE ASSESSMENT AND TAXATION COMMITTEE

March 26, 1986

TO: Representative Edward Rolfs, Chairman

and Members of the Committee

FROM: Terry Humphrey, Executive Director

Kansas Manufactured Housing Institute

SUBJECT: In Support of SB 516

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, I am Terry Humphrey, Executive Director of Kansas Manufactured Housing Institute. Thank you for the opportunity to appear before you in support of Senate Bill 516.

The Kansas Manufactured Housing Institute is a trade association representing all facets of the manufactured housing industry, i.e. manufacturers, retailers, park owners, suppliers, financial institutions, insurance companies, service companies and transport companies.

Senate Bill 516, which passed the Senate 32 to 8, creates a 40% reduction on sales tax paid on new manufactured housing. Currently when an individual buys a new manufactured home, sales tax is paid on the full retail cost of the home. This is in contrast to the taxation of stick built housing where sales tax is paid only on construction materials.

Under the provisions of Senate Bill 516, home buyers will pay sales tax on 60% of the purchase price of their new manufactured home. This percentage ensures that sales tax is being collected on construction materials and any additional items added to the sale at the retail level for set up. The Howard P. Gates study revels that the cost of materials in a new manufactured home are approximately 43.67% of the retail cost of the home.

If this measure becomes law, two important results will be achieved. First, our consumer who is often a "first time home buyer" in the low to moderate income range, will no longer be taxed unfairly. A recent survey found the medium household income of manufactured home buyer, to be \$16,881.00 annualy and the average cost of a new manufactured home approximately \$20,000.00. Obviously, this group of home buyers should not be asked to bare a larger tax burden. Secondly, the manufactured housing industry is an important part of the Kansas economy. At this time, there are nine mobile home manufacturers located in small cities across Kansas. It is estimated that these manufacturers and their retailers, generate approximately 91 million

dollars into the states economy. In the past 18 months we have seen <u>five</u> Kansas plants close and several of their suppliers relocate, out of Kansas. The present health of the manufactured housing industry is tied to the overall Kansas economy, but certain negative marketing factors hinder us as well. It is our contention, that with the passage of Senate Bill 516 the Kansas Legislature will help create a more favorable enviornment for the industry to market it's product.

It is important to mention that in recent years several studies have emphasised the need to eliminate road blocks to home ownership of manufactured housing. These studies include:

- The President's Blue Ribbon Housing Commission Report (April 22, 1982)
- The U.S. Savings and Loan League (position paper "Housing in the 80's")
- National Conference of State Legislatures (booklet on affordable housing)

Already many states have taken steps to eliminate these roadblocks, for example, Indiana, Arkansas, Texas, Georgia, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa and Colorado have enacted similar sales tax legislation.

In conclusion, I would like to remind the Committee that the manufactured housing industry is not asking for special treatment or the complete elimination of a tax - only for equal treatment with similar forms of housing. It is well known that the primary obstical to the passage of Senate Bill 516 is the small fiscal note that is carries. However, It is our contention that the revenue loss will actually be lessened due to an increase in sales. KMHI strongly urges your support of Senate Bill 516, and we thank you for your attention to this matter.



Skyline Corpora 920 West Second Str. P.O. Box 311 Halstead, Kansas 67056 [316] 835-2214

To: Chairman, Ed Rolfs & Members of the Assessment & Taxation Committee

Date: March 26, 1986

Re: SB 516 - 40% Sales Tax Reduction On New Manufactured Housing.

I am Bill Ewert, Division Manager of Skyline Corporation in Halstead. I appreciate the opportunity to testify today in favor of SB 516.

Skyline Corporation has been producing mobile homes in Kansas continuously for the past 27 years. We have two plants, one in Arkansas City and the other in Halstead. During this time, many millions of payroll dollars have contributed to the economy of both of these communities as well as the State of Kansas. The two plants presently employ 130 people with an annual payroll of approximately 2.2 million dollars.

We think it is important to the future of our industry to have sales tax parity with the site built housing market which pays sales tax only on materials used. As things stand now, our consumers pay tax on material, labor, manufacturer's and dealer profits, as well as transportation costs.

We have read and been told that, in the foreseeable future, the general economy will be flat in this part of the country. The 40% reduction on the sales tax could have the positive impact of reducing the monthly payments and help more people qualify for home ownership.

The manufactured housing industry is the only industry left that offers a chance for many to fulfill the American dream of home ownership. Support in favor of SB 516 would be a help to our industry and eliminate an unfavorable imbalance of an existing tax.

Thank you for your attention and consideration.



Citation Homes

Division of Commodore Home Systems, Inc.

1550 Davis Street • P.O. Box 627 • Ottawa, Kansas 66067 • (913) 242-2577

Chairman Ed Rolfs and Members of the Committee:

My name is Dick Barrett. I am the General Manager of Citation Homes, Ottawa, Kansas. When I first started in this industry in 1971, there were 27 manufactured housing plants producing in the state of Kansas. Today, there are nine, two of which haven't produced since early November.

In my facility over the last six months 22 people have been laid off and the remaining have had their income reduced 10-20%. Without these cuts, Citation Homes-Ottawa, Kansas would have been gone this past January.

Clearly we know our industry is tied to the sagging Kansas economy, however some marketing factors such as sales tax contributes to our difficulties.

Therefore, the only solution for my industry is to eliminate the major inequities found between factory built and site built housing such as Taxation and Zoning.

I come here today in definite support of the Senate Bill 516 and ask for your support.

Thank you for your time.

One Kit Boulevard, P.O. Box 738 ■ McPherson, Kansas 67460 ■ (316) 241-1500

March 26, 1986

Chairman Rolff and Members of the Committee:

My name is Lionel Clark and I represent Kit Manufacturing Company of McPherson. Kit has been manufacturing housing for the past 26 years in McPherson. We presently employ about 85 people with an annual payroll of 1.2 million.

I have been in the manufactured housing industry here in Kansas for the past 24 years. I have seen our industry grow to 27 plants in the 70's, creating employment for over 3,000 Kansans, representing an annual payroll of over 60 million. That did not include the additional hundreds of jobs created in support businesses.

Kansas was chosen by these manufacturers, for it's central location, good highways and interstate systems, and a work force second to none.

Our industry has declined over the past few years due to many reasons. We have nine manufacturing locations left in Kansas. Our plants are working at less than 100% capacity and it is becoming more difficult each day to justify to the Board of Directors and Stockholders of these companies our reasons for staying in Kansas.

With the decline of manufacturers in the state our supplier base is leaving Kansas also. In fact we have lost two support industries in the past 30 days located in Newton. By our suppliers leaving Kansas, freight cost on materials used will increase, forcing us to raise our prices, and therefore be less competitive in neighboring states.

I have had the unfortunate experience of working for two major manufacturers that have closed their plants here in Kansas. Marlette Homes in Great Bend and Guerdon Industries in Manhattan. They closed in 1984 and 1985 respectively. Those two alone represented 2.8 million in lost payroll.

We as an industry do not profess, that with a reduction of the sales tax charged for new manufactured housing, all our problems would be solved, but it will help.

We ask for nothing more than equal treatment with the rest of the housing industry here in Kansas, and by your support of SB #516 this will become a reality.

I solicit your support for this bill and thank you for allowing me the time to share my thoughts with you. Together we can make Kansas well again.



HOMES & RV CENTER, INC.

835 Northeast Highway 24 • Topeka, Kansas 66608 • 913 357-5111

MARCH 26. 1986

REPRESENTATIVE ROLFF AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE,

MY NAME IS DON CHRISTMAN. I AM CO-OWNER OF WILCOX HOMES AND RV CENTER, INC. OF TOPEKA AND OPERATE THREE MOBILE HOME COMMUNITIES WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS OF TOPEKA. CURRENTLY, 285 FAMILIES RESIDE WITHIN OUR COMMUNITIES.

I APPRECIATE THE OPPORTUNITY TO TESTIFY TODAY IN FAVOR OF SB 516 WHICH WOULD REDUCE THE SALES TAX ON NEW MANUFACTURED HOMES BY 40%.

KANSAS MANUFACTURED HOUSING INSTITUTE HAS ASKED ME TO LIMIT MY COMMENTS TO ONE SPECIFIC AREA OF THE 40% REDUCTION ISSUE, THAT BEING THE AFFECT THE REDUCTION MIGHT HAVE ON THE CONSUMER OR THE CONSUMERS POINT OF VIEW.

FIRST LET'S DO THE MATH: A \$20,000.00 AVERAGE SINGLE WIDE HOME IN TOPEKA AT A 4% TAX RATE WOULD REQUIRE THE CONSUMER TO PAY \$800.00 IN SALES TAX. So, INSTEAD OF A \$20,000.00 HOME WE NOW HAVE A \$20,800.00 HOME. TOTAL COST TO ANY OF US AS CONSUMERS IS ALWAYS AN IMPORTANT CONSIDERATION. THE REDUCTION OR SAVINGS PROVIDED BY SB 516 WOULD AMOUNT TO \$320.00, A SIGNIFICANT AMOUNT OF MONEY TO MOST MOBILE HOME PURCHASERS. \$320.00 IN MOST AREAS OF THE STATE WOULD PAY FOR SPACE RENT WHICH INCLUDES WATER, SEWER-CHARGES AND TRASH SERVICE FOR 2½ TO 3 MONTHS!

WHAT IF THE HOME WERE FINANCED AS MOST ARE? IN THE EXAMPLE 1 VECITED, THE REDUCTION IN SALES TAX RESULTS IN A LOWER PRINCIPAL

AMOUNT TO FINANCE, IMPORTANT TO THE MARGINAL BORROWER WHOSE DEBT TO INCOME RATIO MAY BE TEETERING ON THE BRINK OF THE LENDING INSTITUTIONS LIMIT. \$320.00 SAVINGS, IF IT HAD TO BE FINANCED AT 14%APR FOR 15 YEARS, WOULD AMOUNT TO A MONTHLY SAVINGS OF \$4.29, A SEEMINGLY INSIGNIFICANT AMOUNT OF MONEY, BUT AGAIN, IT COULD MAKE OR BREAK THE MARGINAL BORROWER. THE TOTAL SAVINGS IN OUR FINANCE EXAMPLE WOULD BE \$772.00, THAT IS \$4.29 FOR 180 MONTHS, NOW A SIGNIFICANT AMOUNT OF MONEY FOR THE BORROWER WHO TYPICALLY COULD ONLY AFFORD A 10% OR \$2,000.00 DOWN PAYMENT IN OUR EXAMPLE HOME.

THE SECOND MAJOR ISSUE I WOULD LIKE TO ADDRESS IS A PEOPLE ISSUE. WHO RECEIVES THE BENEFIT OF OUR PROPOSED REDUCTION IN SALES TAX? MANY RETIRED OR RETIRING KANSANS EACH YEAR CHOOSE MANUFACTURED HOMES TO ESCAPE THE HIGH MAINTENANCE COSTS OF CONVENTIONAL HOMES, PLUS, MOBILE HOME LIVING CAN MANY TIMES ALLOW A FREER LIFESTYLE FOR TRAVEL OR OTHER INTERESTS. I'M SURE THE TAX SAVINGS PROPOSED IN SB 516 WOULD BE OF CONSIDERABLE INTEREST TO THIS FIXED INCOME GROUP SINCE ECONOMY AND LOW COST ARE MAJOR REASONS FOR THE MANUFACTURED HOME PURCHASE DECISION.

I CAN SPEAK PERSONALLY FOR THE SECOND MAJOR CLASSIFICATION OF CONSUMERS WHO WILL BENEFIT FROM OUR PROPOSED BALES TAX REDUCTION. IN 1969 I LEFT WASHBURN UNIVERSITY WITH A DIPLOMA, A LOW PAYING JOB WITH A FUTURE, A PREGNANT WIFE WHO LATER BLESSED ME WITH TWINS, A HOUSING PROBLEM AND VERY LITTLE MONEY FOR A DOWN PAYMENT ON ANY TYPE OF HOUSING. WE CHOSE A MANUFACTURED HOME, THE FIRST OF TWO WE WERE TO OWN, BECAUSE IT MADE SENSE. THE HOME WAS NEW, IT WAS COMPLETE, IT WAS WARRANTED, IT WAS COMFORTABLE, IT WAS ECONOMICAL UTILITYWISE, IT WAS AFFORDABLE, AND IT WAS MINE. FOR MANY YOUNG FAMILIES THE FIRST STEP IN OBTAINING THEIR DREAM HOME IS THE BUILDING OF EQUITY IN A MANUFACTURED HOME. THE TAX SAVINGS PROPOSED IN SB 516 BID NOT ALTER MY DECISION IN 1969 BUT IT WOULD HAVE BEEN ANOTHER POSITIVE REASON TO MAKE THAT BUYING DECISION, AND WILL HAVE A POSITIVE ON MANY YOUNG FAMILIES IN THE FUTURE.

ONE FINAL THOUGHT! THE NEED FOR TAX RELIEF ON CERTAIN HIGH TICKET CONSUMER ITEMS BECOMES MORE IMPORTANT AS THE TAX RATES CLIMB. SB 536 HAS NOW PASSED THE SENATE AND HAS BEEN SENT TO THE HOUSE FOR ACTION. THE 1% MEASURE APPARENTLY HAS CONSIDERABLE BIPARTISAN SUPPORT. A 1% SALES TAX INCREASE WOULD AFFECT MOST THOSE ON FIXED INCOMES AND THE CONSUMER ON THE LOWER END OF THE INCOME SCALE. THE TWO PREDOMINATE CUSTOMER GROUPS FOR OUR PRODUCT. IN OUR EXAMPLE HOME THE MANUFACTURED HOME PURCHASER WOULD HAVE TO SPEND AN ADDITIONAL \$200.00 TO COVER THE TAX OR ADD \$200.00 TO THE AMOUNT FINANCED. | MIGHT POINT OUT SOME BANKS PROBABLY WILL NOT FINANCE OR ADVANCE THE ADDITIONAL TAX. THE BORROWER WILL PROBABLY HAVE TO COME UP WITH THE ADDITIONAL \$200.00 IN THE FORM OF DOWN PAYMENT. IN OUR EXAMPLE THIS AMOUNTS TO A 10% INCREASE IN THE DOWN PAYMENT REQUIREMENT. (\$200.00 INCREASE ON \$2,000.00 REQUIRED DOWN PAYMENT.) THE ADDITION OF THE \$200.00 TO THE AMOUNT FINANCED INCREASES THE MONTHLY PAYMENT BY \$2.67 WHICH AMOUNTS TO \$480.00 OVER THE TERM OF THE LOAN. I SUBMIT TO YOU OUR CUSTOMER OR OUR INDUSTRY DOES NOT NEED A HEAVIER TAX BURDEN, BUT A LIGHTER ONE.

I SOLICIT YOUR SUPPORT OF SB 516. THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND ATTENTION.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED.

Don Christman, Sec./Treas. Wilcox Homes & RV Center, Inc.



The C

COLEMAN COMPANY, INC.

OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS LARRY D. LANDRITH General Offices

P.O. BOX 1762 WICHITA, KANSAS 67201 AREA CODE 316 261-3211

Testimony provided the House Assessment and Taxation Committee in support of Senate Bill 516 Presented by Larry Landrith The Coleman Company, Inc., Wichita, Kansas on March 26, 1986

Chairperson Rolfs, Committee Members and Staff:

My name is Larry Landrith of the Office of Government Affairs of The Coleman Company, Inc. of Wichita. I'm requesting your support for Senate Bill 516 which would have a beneficial effect on the manufacturing housing industry in Kansas as well as The Coleman Company.

Although we're best known for camping and recreation products, Coleman has long been a major part of the manufactured housing industry as manufacturers of heating and air conditioning equipment for mobile home use. In fact, Coleman has been the largest such supplier in the world for many years. Currently our manufactured housing heating and air conditioning business amounts to 70 million dollars in sales per year.

Coleman currently employs 400 people in Wichita who are directly involved in producing manufactured housing heating and air conditioning products with about a 7 million dollar annual payroll. Our sales of these products within the state of Kansas, either to manufacturers, or to after-market distributors in the case of air conditioning products, amounts to more than 3 million dollars per year.

Senate Bill 516, by providing more equitable tax treatment, would serve to strengthen one of Kansas' strongest industries which is a significant provider of jobs in rural areas as well as urban areas. This bill would put the sale of mobile homes on a more equal footing with their site-built competition. Passage of this bill would be a specific, effective economic development measure for Kansas.

Sincerely,

Larry Landrith

LL/jlc

LL916LJF - 42

MEMO .

TO: Representative Edward Rolff and Committee Members

FROM: Marty Gold, VP & Manager, Consumer Loan Department

First National Bank of Topeka, Kansas

DATE: March 25, 1986

RE: SENATE BILL #516 - PROPOSED SALES TAX REDUCTION ON NEW

MANUFACTURED HOUSING

I have been a lending officer at First National Bank of Topeka for 15 years, and have had many opportunities to review loan requests for mobile home financing. One of the requirements of every loan request is the customer's ability to afford an adequate down payment on the unit. Some loan requests that are rejected because of insufficient down payment are partially attributable to the sales tax assessed at the time of purchase.

For example, let's assume a customer wishes to purchase a manufactured home at a price of \$20,000, which is probably close to the average cost of a new mobile home today. Most financial institutions require a minimum 10% of purchase price as a down payment -- in this instance, \$2,000. In addition, the sales tax would be \$800. This begins to restrict the number of qualified buyers.

Most manufactured home customers are first time home buyers, young couples, or lower income applicants. They normally do not have a great deal of cash for a down payment, but would still like to own their own home. Unlike the purchase of an automobile, there is generally not an older model to trade in on a newer one. The down payment requires an immediate cash outlay. Adding sales tax to the down payment at the time of purchase now increases the requirement 40%, and could go as high as 50% with new pending legislation. That is a substantial burden that many simply cannot afford. In addition, mobile home dealers lose customers who, without the large sales tax obligation, could otherwise afford the down payment requirement and purchase a new home.

It is not our intent to get any special consideration for purchasers of manufactured housing. Our intent is to bring greater equity to the whole home purchasing system.

On behalf of an industry whose purpose is to provide affordable, liveable housing to many thousands of Kansans across the state, I respectfully request your support for Senate Bill #516

MG/jam



Route #K-18 P.O. Box 409 Plainville, Kansas 67663 (913) 434-4617

March 19, 1986

The House Assessment and Taxation Committee Chairperson Ed C. Rolfs

I regret that I will be unable to attend the hearing on SB 516. Please accept the attached letter as my testimony in this matter.

Sincerely,

A. P. Janatello General Manager



Schult Homes Corporation • Route K-18, P.O. Box 409 • Plainville, KS 67663 • (913) 434-4617

March 19, 1986

The House Assessment and Taxation Committee Chairperson Ed C. Rolfs

Dear Representative Rolfs and Members of the Committee:

My name is Pete Janatello and I am the General Manager for Schult Homes Corporation, Plainville, Kansas. Plainville is located 23 miles north of Hays on Highway 183. Schult Homes Corporation has been in the manufactured housing industry 52 years, since 1934, and the Plainville division began operation in 1967.

Our present employment level is 92 people representing an annual 1985 payroll of \$1,308,929.20. The company also paid fringe benefit costs of \$317,425.00 for a total in excess of one million six hundred thousand dollars. The fringe benefits included, group insurance costs (money paid to Kansas doctors and hospitals), pension costs (Kansas people retiring in Kansas), workmen's compensation, holidays and vacations. The above figures represent a year when our sales were off by 25%.

Our company represents one of the largest industries, if not the largest in Rooks County. We provide many additional economic benefits such as purchases from local hardware stores, automotive businesses, utilities, etc. not to mention many suppliers throughout the state.

The manufactured housing industry is going through a very difficult period. Because the sales tax situation puts us in an unfortunate competitive disadvantage I'm confident your committee will look favorably on our request. We want very much to remain as a positive element in the Kansas economy and feel that SB516 would be a positive step in that direction.

Sincerely,

A. P. Janaterio General Manager Chairman Edward C. Rolfs Assessment and Taxation Committee

Subject: Sales tax on new manufactured homes

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee:

I'm Onis L. Lemon, Senior Vice President of Commerce Bank and Trust, here in Topeka. I also serve on the K.M.H.I. Board of Directors.

I'm here in support of Senate Bill 516. Some citizens of our state are being discriminated against because they choose to live in a manufactured home as opposed to site built housing. These citizens pay sales tax on the entire price of their homes, while others who choose on-site built housing pay taxes only on the materials that go into their homes.

We in the finance industry feel that this inequity should be corrected. We find that most manufactured homes purchased today are set in parks or on private lots and are seldom moved from these sites. Therefore, they are no longer transit type homes as they may have been classified some years ago.

If the sales tax was reduced to 60% of the total sale price, it would enable more people in the lower income bracket to qualify for purchase of a new manufactured home. This, in turn, would improve sales statewide and increase production within our Kansas plants.

There is no doubt that we now have an unfair tax situation between manufactured and on-site housing. We think now is the time to even the score.

We therefore request that Senate Bill 516 be passed favorably.

Thank you.

Onis L. Lemon

Attachment 9

3/26/86

Hs. A&T

