

Approved MONDAY 2-17-92  
Date

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ASSESSMENT AND TAXATION

The meeting was called to order by Senator Dan Thiessen at  
Chairperson

11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, February 12, 1992 in room 519-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Committee staff present:

Bill Edds, Revisors Office  
Don Hayward, Revisors Office  
Chris Courtwright, Research Department  
Tom Severn, Research Department  
Marion Anzek, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Senator Kenneth Francisco, Sponsor of **SB501**  
Senator Paul Feleciano, Co-sponsor of **SB501**  
Ray Vaughan, Chairperson-Sedgwich County Council on Aging  
Irene Hart, Sedgwich County-Group on Aging  
Marge Zakoura Vaughan, Exec. Dir. of Calvin Senior Center, Inc.  
Beatrice Shisher, SE KS area on Aging  
Ruth McBride, SE KS area on Aging  
Alezine Martin, Sedgwich Co. Council on Aging

Chairman Dan Thiessen called the meeting to order at 11:07 a.m. and said the agenda for today is a hearing on **SB501** and he recognized Senator Francisco, chief sponsor of the bill.

**SB501**:Property taxation; aggregate levy limitations.

**THE FOLLOWING CONFEREES ARE PROPONENTS OF SB501**

Senator Kenneth Francisco said **SB501** is a Sedgwich County Delegation bill. He said, last session, the mill levy for aging programs was placed under the tax lid, and the mill levy was petitioned for and voted on by the people.

He said, many people have the argument that this levy should not be under the tax lid since it has already been approved by the voters. (**ATTACHMENT 1**)

Senator Paul Feleciano, Co-sponsor of **SB501** said the bill, basically would restore the aging mill levy from the tax lid. He said in the early 1980's the legislative body allowed counties to come out from under the tax lid for up to 1 mill. He said, in 1982 the citizens of Sedgwich County voted and overwhelming count of 2 to 1, voted for a 1 mill levy for themselves for aging services.

Senator Feleciano said in 1990 the legislature passed a tax lid and did not make an allowance for this 1 mill levy that was enacted in the early 80's. He said, it has an impact of over a half million citizens across the State of KS. Many counties had voted for this increase and the tremendous benefits it created over KS. The Senator asked for the committee support of **SB501**. (**NO WRITTEN TESTIMONY**)

Ray Vaughan, Chairperson-Sedgwich County Council on Aging said he believes that at least 70 other counties have voted to levy themselves a tax up to 1 mill for aging services. He said, Aging Mill Levies approved by voters before 1990 were by statute exempt from the aggregate tax lid, and legislation passed in 1990 inadvertently rolled the Aging Levy under the tax lid, and the aging mill levy is one of the few taxes that the taxpayers voted to levy upon themselves. Mr. Vaughan said current legislation for the Senior Care Act requires a 100% match from local units of government to qualify for the State funds, and **SB501** could aid them in securing the necessary local funds to bring this vital service to their county. (**ATTACHMENT 2**)

After committee discussion Chairman Thiessen recognized Irene Hart.

Irene Hart, Sedgwich County-Group on Aging said they service staff to the Sedgwich County Advisory Council who asked the delegation to draft this bill and present it to the legislature. (**NO WRITTEN TESTIMONY**)

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ASSESSMENT AND TAXATION,

room 519-S, Statehouse, at 11:00 a.m. ~~xxxx~~ on Wednesday, February 12, 1992.

Marge Zakoura Vaughan, Executive Director of Calvin Senior Center, Inc. said they have a great many low, low income seniors that they serve in their center, and she said this is one of the areas that the multiple mill levy goes to serve them. She said, their dollar amount budget on the aging mill levy for 1992 is exactly the same as for 1991. Our message is hold the line on these services. She asked for the committees support on **SB501**. (**NO WRITTEN TESTIMONY**)

After committee discussion and some questions from committee members,

Irene Hart said they are currently putting \$180,000. into Meals on Wheels and about \$60,000. in Sedgwich County.

Beatrice Shisher from the Southeast KS area on Aging, serving 6 counties. She said 5 of their counties have aging mill levies, and she said out of those mill levies, transportation matching dollars for KDOT Section 16-B2 as well as the section 18 program. She said this is where they get the funds. She said they have about \$100,000 that go into their nutrition budget into transportation for the aging. She said she supports **SB501**. (**NO WRITTEN TESTIMONY**)

Ruth McBride, representing SE KS are on Aging said she is speaking specifically on Montgomery County who currently has  $\frac{1}{2}$  mill levy. She said over half of that goes for transportation in Montgomery County which has a countywide transportation service. She said about 16 meal sites are in bad need of new kitchens and they have agreed to put up seed money to help. (**NO WRITTEN TESTIMONY**)

Alezine Martin, a member of the Sedgwich County Council on Aging said she is a retired nurse and is very concerned with the type of health care the frail and elderly get, or don't get. She said through this funding, she said she believes they will be able to provide some in home care to keep people out of nursing homes and provide a bit of care that the frail and elderly need. (**NO WRITTEN TESTIMONY**)

Chairman Thiessen concluded the hearing on **SB501** and adjourned the meeting at 11:40 a.m.



STATE OF KANSAS

KENNETH D. FRANCISCO  
STATE SENATOR, 26TH DISTRICT  
SEDGWICK AND SUMNER COUNTIES  
BOX 488  
MAIZE, KS 67101



TOPEKA

SENATE CHAMBER

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS  
MEMBER: AGRICULTURE  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS &  
INSURANCE  
GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION  
LEGISLATIVE AND CONGRESSIONAL  
APPORTIONMENT  
JOINT COMMITTEE ON  
ADMIN. RULES & REGS.

THANK YOU MR. CHAIRMAN AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS.

SENATE BILL #501 IS A SEDGWICK COUNTY DELEGATION  
BILL AND WAS INTRODUCED AT THE REQUEST OF SEVERAL  
PEOPLE INVOLVED IN PROGRAMS FOR THE AGING. LAST  
SESSION, THE MILL LEVY FOR AGING PROGRAMS WAS PLACED  
UNDER THE TAX LID. THIS LEVY WAS PETITIONED FOR AND  
VOTED ON BY THE PEOPLE. IT IS THE AGRUMENT OF MANY  
THAT THIS LEVY SHOULD NOT BE UNDER THE TAX LID SINCE  
IT HAS ALREADY BEEN APPROVED BY THE VOTERS.

SEDGWICK COUNTY IS ALLOWED TO LEVY UP TO 1 MILL FOR  
AGING SERVICES. WE ARE CURRENTLY LEVYING APPROXIMATELY  
.80 MILLS. THE INTENT OF THIS LEGISLATION IS TO ALLOW  
US TO LEVY UP TO THE 1 MILL AS APPROVED BY THE VOTERS.

SENATE ASSESSMENT & TAX  
2-12-92  
ATT. 1

SEDGWICK COUNTY, KANSAS



Council on Aging

Ray Vaughan  
Chairperson  
510 N. Main  
Wichita, KS 67203  
(316) 383-7298

I am Ray Vaughan, Chair of the Sedgwick County Advisory Council on Aging. On behalf of the Council, I request you pass Senate Bill 501 to restore exemption of the Aging Mill Levy from the tax lid.

In 1982 the citizens of Sedgwick County voted to levy upon themselves a tax up to 1 mill for Aging Services. I believe voters in at least 70 other counties have done the same thing. All Aging Mill Levies approved by voters before 1990 were by statute exempt from the aggregate tax lid. Legislation passed in 1990 inadvertently rolled the Aging Levy under the tax lid. The Aging Mill Levy is one of the few taxes that the taxpayers voted to levy upon themselves. They recognized the valuable contribution this would be for the community and to those who have made what we have today possible.

The Aging population continues to grow and so do their needs. Having a dedicated tax does not give us a free hand with the budget, but it will help us to get some of the needed funding for Aging programs without competing with all other county functions under the tax lid. For example, I understand that current legislation for the Senior Care Act requires a 100% match from local units of government to qualify for the State funds. Passage of Senate Bill 501 could aid us in securing the necessary local funds to bring this vital service to our county.

SENATE ASSESSMENT & TAX

ATT. 2  
2-12-92