

Kansas Senate Tax Committee Chair
Kansas State Capitol
5th Floor 548-S
Topeka, KS

Thomas Castrigno
Leavenworth, KS 66048

January 8, 2023

Dear Chairman;

I am writing to express my strong support for SB 196 to return the LAVTR taxes back to local cities and counties as originally intended.

It is estimated that returning Leavenworth's portion of LAVTR could reduce property taxes by as much as 8.5%.

This would be a very important first step to providing property tax relief to all residents of Leavenworth, owners and renters alike. As a rental property owner, I strive to provide long term housing in line with area wages for hard working local families.

A reduction in property taxes would help me keep rents in line for my tenants.

Sales taxes on items such as alcohol and tobacco paid by local residents and visitors and collected by the state from local municipalities should be returned to the locality they originated from in order to help pay for critical services such as road maintenance, trash service, and public safety.

By broadening county revenue sources beyond only property taxes, the residents and visitors who benefit from these services would also more directly contribute to the cost of them.

Another important step would include instituting a PILOT from the Federal Government for the property they own in Leavenworth; Fort Leavenworth, the VA, and Federal Prison.

I urge the Senate Tax Committee to pass SB 196 and begin returning sales taxes to the communities that paid them in accordance with LAVTR as originally intended.

Please accept this letter in place of a personal appearance at the hearing. I do not plan to attend.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Thomas Castrigno