

January 8, 2024

Senate Taxation Committee
Topeka KS

RE: SB196

I'm writing to ask for your support to return LVTR money from the state back to local governments as originally intended. My husband is a retired Navy Veteran and we chose to make Leavenworth County our home. We moved here in 2013 and have seen our property taxes skyrocket 3-4x what they were when we moved here. Yes, our property valuation has increased, but our property taxes should NOT be as high as they are. My property taxes currently are \$901/month. I bought my house in 2013 for \$365,000. I pay more in property taxes than I do for my mortgage (Principal (\$574/month) & interest payments). If our property taxes cannot be reigned in, we will be forced to move elsewhere.

I've also been a realtor since 2015 with ReeceNichols Premier Realty. I can tell you that potential buyers do look at what their property taxes cost them when considering a new home. MANY choose not to buy in Wyandotte County because of their taxes and I'm starting to hear grumblings about Leavenworth County as their taxes are gaining on Wyandotte's. High property taxes do, in fact, sway families on where they consider purchasing a home along with County resources/activities etc.

Please vote to support the bill to return LVTR money from the state back to the local governments. We love living where we do, but I'm not going to continue paying almost a \$1,000/month in property taxes. Something needs to change.

Thank you for your consideration and for having a hearing on this bill. I'm out of town this week helping my daughter move into college and cannot be at the hearing on Wednesday in person. I hope this letter is given to the appropriate legislative members to show my support for this bill.

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