



Senate Committee on Taxation

February 14, 2024

SB 468, Support, In Person

Dear Chair Tyson and Members of the Committee,

My name is Elizabeth Patton and I am the State Director of Americans for Prosperity- Kansas. On behalf of thousands of Kansas activists, we urge you to support SB 468. This legislation is a straightforward way for local governments to be held to the same budgeting and accountability that we ask Kansas families to do every day. It requires local governments remain revenue neutral and generating the same amount of property taxes as levied the previous year.

Many Kansans feel as though they are being taxed out of their home and the vast majority of property taxes are levied at the local level. Oftentimes, it is the taxpayer who ultimately bears the burden of tax increment finance districts or bonds that fail and this way of operating ought to change. This legislation adds an extra layer of intention when approving projects which therefore increases the likelihood of success and accountability in the decision-making process. It is the successful projects that bring economic growth, but the failed ones which burden our families and communities.

Kansas is also one of the top two most governed states per capita mostly due to the large size of local governments across the state. Efficient government is important, but an oversized and overlarge local government without spending accountability or proper limits has become untenable to the residents of our state.

This legislation is merely asking that local governments stay within their means which is perfectly reasonable and something that Kansas families are required to do every day... even when their property taxes increase.

I want to commend the body here on already passing state-level property tax reform with an overwhelming majority on the portion that the state controls and working to get that money back into the hands of the people.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Patton

State Director

Americans for Prosperity-Kansas