



To: Chairman Tyson and Members of the Senate Committee on Assessment & Taxation
From: Jeff Cermin, VP of Administration & Finance/CFO
Date: February 12, 2024
Subject: Testimony in Opposition to Senate Bill 468

Thank you for your consideration of my testimony on behalf of Dodge City Community College in opposition to Senate Bill (SB) No. 468. I am urging you to **Vote No** on SB 468 that ties the use of tax abatements, industrial revenue bonds and TIF districts to the Revenue Neutral Rate (RNR).

SB 468 states that any city that would utilize Industrial Revenue Bonds, Tax Increment Financing districts and/or Tax Abatements beginning in 2025 would not be allowed to exceed the Revenue Neutral Rate.

This bill harms cities, businesses, and citizens. These economic tools are used by the City of Dodge City, Dodge City Community College and other cities to create crucial economic development, by businesses to reduce costs of projects, and help citizens by bolstering job opportunities and clearing blighted areas. If passed, Dodge City will be challenged to offer these programs. Furthermore, non-profit entities utilize these programs, particularly IRBs.

The Revenue Neutral Rate process was created to provide more transparency and accountability as it relates to the property tax process. Tying any economic incentive programs usage to the Revenue Neutral Process undermines its purpose and is a poor precedent.

In closing, Dodge City Community College urges you to recognize the critical role that these incentive tools play in the advancement and development of our communities and state. If passed SB 468 will have a devastating, negative impact on the future in Kansas and the growth of Dodge City.

Your consideration of my testimony and your opposition of SB 468 is greatly appreciated it.

Sincerely,

Jeff Cermin
VP of Administration & Finance/CFO