



2023 - 2024 Executive board

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February 13, 2024

SB 468 - Prohibiting cities and counties that grant or approve certain property tax exemptions or tax increment financing from exceeding their revenue neutral rates for property tax purposes. – Opposition written testimony from Jamie R. Doss, representing KCCEOA

Chairwoman Tyson and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express opposition to the proposed legislation, Senate Bill 468, which aims to restrict cities and counties in Kansas from exceeding their revenue neutral rates when granting certain property tax exemptions or tax increment financing. While the intention may be to ensure fiscal responsibility, there are several concerns and potential negative consequences associated with this proposed act.

This legislation appears to limit the autonomy of local governments in managing their finances. Cities and counties should have the flexibility to make decisions based on the unique economic and development needs of their communities. Imposing a strict cap on property tax rates could hinder their ability to attract investment, spur economic growth, and address specific local challenges.

The Revenue Neutral Rate was proposed as a transparency measure, it seems this bill deviates from its intended purpose and does not appear to be a transparency measure.

The legislation also fails to acknowledge the potential positive impact of property tax exemptions and tax increment financing on local economies. These tools can be vital for stimulating development, revitalizing blighted areas, and attracting new businesses. By placing stringent restrictions, this bill may discourage local governments from employing these strategies, potentially stunting economic growth.

In conclusion, while the goal of maintaining fiscal responsibility is commendable, Senate Bill 468 risks stifling local economic development, hindering community initiatives, and imposing unnecessary bureaucratic hurdles. I urge you to reconsider the implications of this legislation and explore alternative approaches that allow local governments the flexibility to address their unique challenges while ensuring accountability.

Thank you for considering these concerns and perspectives as you deliberate on this proposed legislation.

Respectfully submitted.

Jamie R Doss, Saline County Clerk/Election Officer - KCCEOA Legislative Acting Chair