

SEDGWICK COUNTY, KANSAS

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK

KELLY B. ARNOLD

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February 9, 2024

Chairman Tyson and Committee,

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 482 which would provide that county clerks are not required to mail revenue neutral rate notices to owners of tax-exempt property. I request the legislature consider this legislation in an effort to make the revenue neutral rate notice more relevant to owners, and to save taxpayer dollars. The current language in the RNR statute directs county clerks to send notice to all property owners, without any distinction between properties subject to ad valorem taxes, and properties which are exempt from taxation.

In 2023 my office produced and mailed just under 200,000 notices. Around 10,000 of these were mailed to owners of properties which don't pay these taxes. Examples of these are churches, state and municipal buildings, federal/military installations, Veterans Administration property, and police and fire stations, to name just a few. The format for the revenue neutral rate notice is designed by the state and used uniformly by each county, so the groups receiving notices for exempt properties see zeros in the proposed tax columns, which may create confusion.

I respectfully request the committee pass Senate Bill 482.

Sincerely,

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Kelly B. Arnold Sedgwick County Clerk