

January 31, 2023

Chairman McGinn and Committee Members,

I am a proponent for SB 86. It seems a bit odd we need this bill as it is obvious anyone with a conflict that would provide benefits should "opt out" or "recuse" from any given vote on a rule, decision, or etc.

In this case, as it applies very locally to me, the passage of this bill would prevent our new BOCC Chairman from any involvement or vote that he or his law firm, Husch Blackwell, is involved in. He is a partner in this law firm and has lots of power there as well as in his role as the Chairman of the BOCC. He and his law firm are heavily involved with developers, which could easily spill over into the goings on in Johnson County. The BOCC as a group (but not all of the Commissioners) is very involved with MARC and the Green New Deal, pushing wind and solar versus the readily available and cheaper fuel in coal. These other methods would never survive without governmental subsidies, which is where Chairman Kelly could do some damage if he and his firm would benefit but he would not be required to recuse himself each and every time.

This bill impacts our state and all leaders, and I realize that. My focus is on where it would impact my community the most. Thank you for your time.

Please pass SB 86.

Most sincerely,

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