## Lora Holdridge

Bourbon County Register of Deeds 210 S National Fort Scott KS 66701 rod@bourboncountyks.org 02/11/2025

## **Honorable Local Government Committee Members**

Kansas State Senate

Dear Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for Kansas Senate Bill 120, a vital piece of legislation that will safeguard the rights of county employees by providing protection when reporting wrongdoing.

As the Bourbon County Register of Deeds, I have had the honor of working for Bourbon County for over twenty years, serving our community and upholding public trust. During my tenure, I have witnessed the critical importance of creating an environment in which public employees feel safe to report unethical or illegal activities without fear of retaliation.

Senate Bill 120 is an important step toward ensuring that county employees can report misconduct, fraud, or other unlawful activities without the fear of retribution, loss of employment, or other career-damaging consequences. Such protections are essential for maintaining transparency, accountability, and integrity in local government, and for fostering a workplace culture that prioritizes the public good over personal or political interests.

This bill is not only about protecting employees but also about ensuring that local governments can operate in a fair and just manner. It sends a message that wrongdoing will not be tolerated, and that employees who do the right thing will have the support and protection they deserve.

I urge you to strongly support Senate Bill 120 and help make our workplaces safer, more transparent, and accountable to the citizens of Kansas.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Lora Holdridge