

STATE OF KANSAS
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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CAROLYN CAIHARR

33RD DISTRICT

Dear Chairman Bergquist, Vice Chairman Blex and Members of the Local Government Committee,

I appear before you today in support of HB2769. This bill requires any person who has been appointed to a Board with tax levy authority to live in the area that is subject to that tax.

There is such a board in Wyandotte County and perhaps others throughout the State. The Board in Wyandotte County is comprised of 11 members who vote on the budget, setting the tax to be levied. Then, they vote on the allocation of revenue they've received through taxation.

Of the 11 Board members, only 6 live in the district being taxed by this board. Nearly half of the board members set a tax for an area in which they do not live. They set the mill levy for a tax they do not pay.

The members of this board are appointed so there is no election, no recourse. This is taxation without representation. A principal our country has condemned since its founding. Please help me address this concern by passing HB2769 favorably out of committee at your earliest convenience.

Thank you for allowing me to address you today.

Rep. Carolyn Caiharr