



2024 - 2025 Executive board

Rick Piepho, Harvey County, President
Dori Munyan, Finney County, Vice President
Abby Amick, Wabaunsee County, Secretary
Jamie R Doss, Saline County, Treasurer

March 4, 2025 - hearing on HB 2396 -Authorizing the use of a protest petition to limit funding of a taxing jurisdiction by property tax revenues exceeding a certain amount, establishing the acknowledging stewardship of tax revenue and appropriations (ASTRA) fund; authorizing certain transfers from the state general fund to qualifying cities and counties and eliminating the revenue neutral rate requirements by taxing subdivisions and the taxpayer notification costs fund.– **Neutral** testimony from Jamie R. Doss, representing KCCEOA - written-only.

Chairman Smith and Members of the Committee,

The proposed bill introduces the option of protest petitions, allowing for a process to manage increases in property tax revenues due to changes in the consumer price index or new improvements within the county. This approach promotes a balanced and equitable framework for all taxing jurisdictions, enabling local budgets to effectively support essential community services. It considers the impact of inflation and the growing demand for services driven by population growth, ensuring that local governments are equipped to meet the needs of their constituents. The mechanism for public participation through protest petitions feature also allows citizens to engage directly in the budgetary process and express their concerns regarding property tax increases.

As county clerks, our role involves the calculation of tax levies and ensuring compliance with state regulations. It will be essential to assess the administrative implications of the proposed changes, particularly regarding the certification processes and the handling of protest petitions. I believe this bill allows for a manageable timeline for our part in the process.

In conclusion, while House Bill No. 2396 introduces mechanisms for taxpayer engagement and potential financial support for local governments, careful consideration must be given to maintaining transparency and ensuring smooth administrative operations.

Thank you for considering our perspective and concerns as you deliberate on this proposed legislation.

Respectfully submitted.

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