

# OVERLAND PARK

City Hall  
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Overland Park, Kansas 66212  
www.opkansas.org

Date: January 28, 2026  
To: Chairman Thompson & the Senate Committee on Federal and State Affairs  
From: City of Overland Park  
Re: Written Testimony in Opposition to SB 314

Thank you for allowing the City of Overland Park to submit testimony in opposition to SB 314.

The City opposes SB 314 because the Kansas Constitution already prohibits political subdivisions from promoting or opposing ballot initiatives. The Kansas Attorney General has clearly opined that cities are prohibited from promoting or opposing questions on local ballots, but remain free to distribute neutral educational materials.<sup>1</sup> Courts assume new legislation is intended to achieve a change in law, so passing a new statute that just codifies existing law may cause courts to interpret SB 314 as having a more expansive impact than intended.

Specifically, the City is concerned that SB 314 may be interpreted as prohibiting cities from providing educational information to the public during sales tax elections about the use of sales taxes. For example, SB 314 could have a chilling effect on cities that want to educate voters on how adoption of a sales tax could reduce property taxes. We think such an effect would be a disservice to residents, foster an environment of uninformed voters, and potentially hurt the quality of life in our communities.

Thank you for allowing the City to testify on this legislation. We respectfully request that the Committee not advance SB 314 to the full Senate.

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<sup>1</sup> Kan. Att’y Gen. Opinion No. 1993-125.