BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

March 11, 2019

HOUSE BILL 2340

Testimony of Vernon Reinking, Smith County Treasurer President, Kansas County Treasurers Association

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Taxation Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on behalf of Smith County and as President of the Kansas County Treasurers Association on House Bill 2340.

The Kansas County Treasurers Association does not support HB 2340. The bill would create a process that the County Treasurer will hold certain tax funds paid under protest from distributions. It would effect cash flow and the budgeting process for the state, county, schools and townships that we collect and distribute taxes for.

HB 2340 identifies protest on the assessed value of taxes on real property to be held from distribution. We will be forced to withhold money from our distribution that each of these jurisdictions are counting on. They have their calendars marked and know when the distributions are coming. We have school districts and cities calling wanting to know how much they will be receiving days in advance so that they know how it will affect their spending. The state, county, schools and townships will definitely not be happy if this affects the amount of their distributions that they are waiting for.

HB 2340 will create more work in our offices as we will have to track the protested parcels until there appeal is finalized. We will have to modify the way we do our distributions and could prove to be costly depending on the amount of protest that we have to process. Every office will be a little different.

Thank You for giving me the opportunity to provide written testimony in opposition of HB 2340 With the work that will be involved, the financial and budgeting issues the we will face, we are asking for your support to not move this legislation forward from this committee. Thank You for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Vernon Reinking Kansas County Treasurers Association Smith County Treasurer