



KANSAS
ASSOCIATION OF
COUNTIES

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Testimony of the Kansas Association of Counties to the
House Committee on Taxation
Opponent Testimony on HB 2440 • February 19, 2020

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for allowing the Kansas Association of Counties to offer testimony on HB 2440, which would make appraisers an elected position.

KAC opposes HB 2440 because it politicizes a position that is currently not political. Whether elections are partisan or not, elections are by definition political. Currently, appraisers are administrative. They perform a specific function, in this case, setting property values, rather than making policy decisions.

Making appraisers elected would politicize their work. Would appraisers feel pressure from large campaign donors? Would people with no experience in appraisals be inclined to run for office? Would the entire system of appraisal accountability developed by the Property Valuation Division disappear because the elected appraisers would not be subject to those standards? These are just some of the risks associated with the election of appraisers.

KAC does not want to politicize this critical administrative function, and asks that the committee reject HB 2440. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Jay Hall
Kansas Association of Counties

