



Mark Tomb  
Vice President of Governmental Affairs  
Kansas Association of REALTORS®  
3644 SW Burlingame Rd.  
Topeka, KS 66611  
785-414-5155  
mark@kansasrealtor.com

To: House Taxation Committee  
From: Mark Tomb, VP of Governmental Affairs  
Date: March 15, 2022

Re: Testimony in Support of HB 2729

On behalf of the Kansas Association of REALTORS® (KAR), thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB 2729, legislation that reduces the property tax burden for older homeowners in Kansas.

The Kansas Association of REALTORS® represents over 11,000 members involved in residential, agricultural and commercial real estate and has advocated on behalf of the state's property owners for more than 100 years. REALTORS® serve an important role in the state's economy and are dedicated to working with our elected officials to create better communities by supporting economic development, a high quality of life and providing affordable housing opportunities while protecting the rights of private property owners.

Regarding Property Taxes, the KAR Legislative Policy Statement states:

REALTORS® believe that real estate is burdened with an excessive share of the constantly increasing cost of state and local government. While we realize the importance of many programs funded through property tax revenues, we believe tax revenues should be equitably collected from a variety of sources and encourage taxing jurisdictions to consider the negative impact to the housing market associated with any potential increase in property tax rates.

REALTORS® believe that the private ownership of real property is the foundation of our nation's free enterprise system and we enthusiastically support legislation such as HB 2729 that increases the likelihood that a senior on a fixed income will be able to stay in their home. While KAR supports the mechanics of this legislation we would prefer that property tax relief be provided to a broader category of property owners. Currently the legislation is limited to those that have lived in their property for at least 10 years. We would request this requirement be reduced or eliminated.

In conclusion, KAR supports property tax relief and is encouraged by HB 2729 and other proposals to reduce the property tax burden on our seniors. Thank you for your time and consideration of our testimony.