



KANSAS
ASSOCIATION OF
COUNTIES

TESTIMONY OF THE KANSAS ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES
TO THE HOUSE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE
ON SB 207

MARCH 1, 2012

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:

I appreciate the opportunity to testify in support of SB 207.

Senate Bill 207 clarifies the authority of Kansas counties to accept credit cards and debit cards. There has been a point of confusion as to whether counties currently have the authority to receive such payments, and, we have member counties that are concerned with the legality of accepting credit-card payments.

The language in SB 207 specifies that "any county may accept credit or debit cards for the payment of any taxes, utility fees, or other exactions." The new language will help counties offer a service that residents expect to receive from their local government. SB 207 also allows counties to recoup the expense of accepting credit and debit cards with the provision that counties "may set a fee to be added to each credit card transaction equal to the charge paid by the county for the use of the credit card by the person." This will allow counties to account for the surcharges that credit card companies add for the privilege of using a credit card. The option to receive debit and credit cards is currently available to cities through K.S.A. 12-16,125. KAC respectfully asks that the legislature grant counties the same option.

Thank you for your consideration of this testimony.

Respectfully Submitted,

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