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TO: House Transportation Committee

Bill No. HB 2180

Hearing Date

Chairman Proehl and Members of the House Transportation Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide my testimony.

My name is Nancy Clubine and I am the Montgomery County Treasurer. I am here in support of House Bill 2180. I began my employment with the Treasurer's office in June 1980 and became County Treasurer in December 2004. When I started my job we typed title applications on a manual typewriter. The State started the VIPS program and in 2012 the State began the MOVRS (Motor Vehicle Registrations System) program. KCoVRS (Kansas Commercial Vehicle Registration System) was implemented in 2014. During my time in the office I have witnessed many changes.

In our county the County Commissioners do not supplement the operating fund for the motor vehicle office. This is because the motor vehicle office is not a county levied fund. Therefore, I must pay all expenses for the motor vehicle office from the fees we receive from processing vehicle transactions. For each transaction the motor vehicle office processes, we are allowed to retain a portion of the registration fee. For example, when we process a registration renewal, the registration fee is \$42.25. The county motor vehicle office retains \$5.75 and the fees passed on to KDOR (Kansas Department of Revenue) are \$36.50. The fees that counties currently retain are not enough to cover the costs of running the office.

There are two motor vehicle offices in Montgomery County. Our primary office is located in Independence and a satellite office in Coffeyville. Independence and Coffeyville have about the same population of approximately 9,000 people. The primary location serves Independence, Cherryvale and the rural area of the north end of the county. The satellite office serves Coffeyville, Caney and the rural area of the south end of the county. A facility fee is charged in the satellite office. Title & Registrations are \$3.00 per title and renewals are \$1.00 each. These fees help to offset rent and utilities for the satellite office but are not enough. Each office has three employees. I need four employees in each office to provide adequate service. Currently we often have lines down the hall and out the door.

Out of the motor vehicle operating fund, I pay all of the employees' salaries, withholdings and benefits, including health insurance. Additionally, I must purchase all of the office supplies necessary to operate the office, including paper and toner. In the past, KDOR allotted all counties funds for paper and toner. The allotment is no longer given to the county motor vehicle office. I pay for the postage the motor vehicle office uses and I must purchase any and all equipment in the office. This includes computers, printers, scanners, copy machine and other office equipment. These items are high dollar expenses and I do not have the funds to purchase or replace computer equipment.

In 2016 at the end of the year the motor vehicle operating fund was in the red. I went before the Board of County Commissioners and explained my situation. The board graciously gave me the shortage for the motor vehicle fund. In the year of 2017, I was not fully staffed for several months so I was able to barely stay in the black. In the year of 2018, I was able to remain in the black because we were understaffed for nine months of the year due to our courthouse being flooded. While we were temporarily relocated I did not have room for a third employee. It was a hardship on our customers and staff to work with only two employees.

The motor vehicle operating fund must remain in the black at the end of each year. Speaking from experience, if I have to reduce the number of staff it will be hardship on our customers and staff. Therefore I support House Bill 2180 which will increase the motor vehicle operating fund. The increase is much needed by county motor vehicle offices throughout the state.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify and I respectfully ask for your support of House Bill 2180.

I will be happy to answer questions at the appropriate time.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Clubine

Montgomery County Treasurer