



Sedgwick County...
working for you

Sedgwick County Treasurer

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To: House Transportation Committee:
Rep. Richard Proehl, Chair; Rep. Jack Thimesch,
Vice Chair; Rep. Kent Thompson; Rep. Dave Baker;
Rep. Michael Houser; Rep. Barbara Ballard;
Rep. Francis Awerkamp; Rep. Tom Cox; Rep. Bill Sutton;
Rep. Jeff Pittman; Rep. J.R. Claeys; Rep. Joe Seiwert;
Rep. K.C. Ohaebosim; Rep. Ponka-We Victors;
Rep. Henry Helgerson; Rep. Nick Hoheisel; Rep. Shannon Francis

From: Linda Kizzire, Sedgwick County Treasurer

Date: February 8, 2019

Re: House Bill No. HB 2180

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Transportation Committee:

I am offering written support of House Bill No. HB 2180 which would make changes to Kansas Statute(s) 8-135, 8-135c, 8-139, 8-143, 8-145, 8-145d, 8-167, 8-170, and 8-198. These changes will allow for a flat fee structure for motor vehicle transactions. Additionally, the bill will offer citizens a more transparent fee structure and provide much needed funding for Motor Vehicle offices at the local level.

Sedgwick County currently operates two Motor Vehicle offices in Wichita. There are a total of 79 employees dedicated to Tag operations. The main office provides title and registration work, consolidated mail services, IT support, bookkeeping, fleets and dealers services, and title approving. The second office provides title and registration services. The existing fee structure has remained the same for nearly four (4) decades, while operating costs, equipment, and employee wages and benefits have continued to rise. In addition, the volume of work has continued to increase during this same time period.

Over the years, The Kansas Department of Motor Vehicles has handed down various duties and responsibilities to the County Treasurers' statewide. The work the State used to provide has been reassigned to the County level creating additional expense and workload to the County. Despite the significant additional work, NO additional funding was passed along to compensate the County for the additional work.

In order to meet the needs of our taxpayers I was forced to hire ten (10) additional tag clerks, one (1) assistant tag manager, one (1) supervisor, and four (4) part time employees without any additional funding from the State or the County. We are requesting six (6) more positions this year in order to meet the day to day needs and to keep up with the rising volume of work.

Some of the responsibilities handed down include: scanning all title documents, correspondence with out of state lenders and car dealerships, and reviewing/approving our own title work. We expect, in the future, the State will hand down title printing responsibilities which will require us to print titles at the county level for some, if not all, applicants. All these duties require personnel, work space and specific equipment. All of these commodities are extremely expensive.

I conclude by saying, I am in strong support of this bill. This proposed fee structure will assist us in meeting the continual growing cost of providing a vehicle title and registration service to our tax payers.

As an elected official, my goal is to provide accurate, efficient service to my constituents. I see this legislation as an opportunity to allow such service to continue uninterrupted even as our work load continues to increase. Please support this change.

Thank you,

Linda Kizzire, Sedgwick County Treasurer