

House Taxation Committee March 22, 2021 Senate Bill 72

Kansas Association of Counties Testimony in Opposition – Written Only

Chairman Smith and members of the Committee:

Thank you for allowing the Kansas Association of Counties to offer testimony regarding SB 72, which would make changes to the qualifications and appraisal courses for appraisers in the state of Kansas. KAC opposes this bill.

Any changes to the requirements of professional education in any area should be done very cautiously. Changing the continuing education approval process is not something that should be done without careful study. The Kansas Real Estate Appraisal Board's (KREAB) primary purpose is focused on protecting real estate loans rather than purely determining valuation. Counties are not lending institutions to their residents, and as such, the valuation criteria are different. Because the focus is different, the presentations will also differ.

It should also be noted that KREAB focuses its course offerings on private appraisal firms. This is why courses focused on expanding the appraisal practice or submitting a scope of work are approved under the KREAB. While these courses have their place in private practice, they would not be appropriate for continuing education for county or district appraisers.

In addition, KAC is concerned that these changes to the educational requirements may affect the number of appraisers available in Kansas, which could negatively impact rural counties when looking to hire or retain their appraiser.

KAC is opposed to SB 72 and would respectfully ask the committee not to move forward on this bill. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Jay Hall
Legislative Policy Director and General Counsel
Kansas Association of Counties
hall@kansascounties.org
(785)272-2585, Ext. 307