

STATE OF KANSAS

ELAINE BOWERS
SENATOR, 36TH DISTRICT
1326 N. 150TH RD.
CONCORDIA, KS 66901
(785) 243-4256

STATE CAPITOL, ROOM 223-E
TOPEKA, KANSAS 66612
(785) 296-7389
elaine.bowers@senate.ks.gov



TOPEKA

SENATE CHAMBER

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS
CHAIR: TRANSPARENCY & ETHICS
VICE CHAIR: LOCAL GOVERNMENT
MEMBER: JUDICIARY
TRANSPORTATION
UTILITIES

JOINT COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS:
CAPITOL PRESERVATION
CORRECTIONS & JUVENILE OVERSIGHT

HOUSE TAXATION COMMITTEE
Testimony in Support of HB2464
January 12, 2022

Good Afternoon Chairman Smith, Vice Chair Mason, Ranking Member Gartner, and members of the committee. Thank you for scheduling the hearing for HB2464 this week. I am providing written testimony today for the pre-filed bill which has the exact wording in the Senate version SB318. The Senate Taxation committee will hold their hearing on January 13th.

After discussion with the area legislators, we requested this bill draft similar to the wildfire bills we have passed in previous years; however, this version has no expiration date so future wildfire events will not have to go through the entire legislative process. The procedure will be in place for the next wildfire and the Department of Revenue will be poised to start their work. It was also important that this bill be retroactive as ranchers and farmers are already beginning the process of rebuilding in the four-county area. It has been estimated that one mile of fence is approximately \$20,000.00 to build so a sales tax exemption will certainly be beneficial to the ranchers.

Due to the time constraints of pre-filing the bill so we could have hearings the first week, I would anticipate committee discussions and a possible amendment concerning a "trigger" of when this provision would go into effect. We discussed possible agencies such as the Department of Agriculture, the Adjutant General or another entity to make a declaration of a wildfire and not solely leave it up to the Department of Revenue. So as not to rush the revisors, this was left out of this version and the committee may have opinions who we choose or leave it as a basic as filed.

I do want to thank the Department of Revenue for their help in drafting the bill and also note their willingness to help as soon as the bill is signed into law.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Elaine Bowers".

Senator Elaine Bowers
Senate District #36