



KANSAS
ASSOCIATION OF
COUNTIES

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House Local Government Committee
January 30, 2023
HB 2082

Kansas Association of Counties
Proponent Testimony

Chairman Bergquist and members of the Committee:

Thank you for allowing the Kansas Association of Counties to offer proponent testimony on HB 2082, which would allow counties to create a code inspection and enforcement fund and expanding the existing equipment fund to include electronic technology. It would also allow counties to create a municipalities fight addiction fund.

HB 2082 is a simple bill. It allows counties to, at their discretion, create two new funds. One would help with reporting and auditing, the other would allow counties to comply with the requirements of the Kansas Fights Addiction Act. HB 2082 also updates allowable expenses under an existing fund. It does not increase taxes or fees.

The Kansas Fights Addictions Act requires that settlement money from the opioid settlements be separated, as required by the legal settlements, and used only for authorized purposes. Similarly, counties already have the ability to enforce zoning and other codes, such as building codes. The fees associated with this go into the county general fund. Since counties can only create funds if they are given statutory authority to do so, these funds cannot be separated from the other money that flows into the county general fund. As a result, the reporting and auditing of these programs is more difficult because they are not going into their own funds. HB 2082 would not increase fees or create new fees. It would only create a fund into which existing fees would be deposited, at the discretion of individual counties.

This bill also addresses an important issue relating to an existing fund, the equipment reserve fund. The current allowable expenditures under the equipment reserve fund include computer hardware and software, but not other technology that did not exist when this statute was last amended in 1987. The proposed changes will help bring this fund up to date with current technology expenses.

KAC urges your support of HB 2082 and would ask the committee to recommend it favorably for passage. Thank you.

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