

CITY OF EDWARDSVILLE



690 S. 4th St.
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January 30, 2023

House Committee on Local Government

Re: HB 2083

Dear Chairman Bergquist
and Members of the House Committee on Local Government

Please accept this letter as our opposition to HB 2083 which will eliminate the rights of local communities to effectively manage its health, safety and welfare regarding vacant properties.

While the city of Edwardsville does not currently have an ordinance requiring registration of vacant properties, local elected officials should be afforded the opportunity to respond to its citizens in addressing the impacts that may be caused by vacant properties, whether it be the use of a registration program and/or code enforcement actions.

We would also note that a vacant property registration program can have positive effects for the property owner and the community. Such programs help connect the parties and can be used in economic development activities by identifying potential properties for residential and commercial development/redevelopment.

In closing, let local communities and its elected leaders determine what policies and programs are appropriate for their community by opposing HB 2083, known as the Kansas Vacant Property Act.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Michael Webb', is written over the word 'Sincerely,'.

Michael Webb
City Manager

xc: Mayor and City Council