In reference to **SB 248**, the City of Lindsborg wishes to note the following:

- Overall loss to general fund budgets is harmful to city governments, which use these levies to fund essential services. This bill has no proviso to make up these lost dollars in local budgets.
- Local sales tax levies are voter approved. This bill undermines voters of a community who voted on these levies and their purposes.
- Many projects funded by special sales tax levies approved by voters will be negatively impacted--pools, community centers, event centers, hospitals, road projects, police and fire funds, schools, athletic facilities, parks and more.
- SB 248 does not take into consideration economic development initiatives that are impacted, such as TIF Districts, STAR Bond projects, and CID Sales Tax Projects.

The City of Lindsborg collects about $108,000 annually from stores that are currently remitting sales tax for grocery items. This would be an estimated sales tax loss equivalent to a <u>4-mill property tax increase</u> in our annual budget if SB 248 passes without other funding sources to leave they city whole. A loss of this amount would be a detrimental and recovering that loss would prohibit us from executing planned improvements in our community.

We are asking the committee to **Vote NO on SB 248** or amend it so that local sales tax levies on food, food ingredients, and groceries are made whole again—as is current law.

Thank you,
Kristi
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I realize that my working hours may be different than yours, and that's okay. Please do not feel obligated to respond outside your working hours.