

March 1, 2012

TO: Kansas House Local Government Committee

FROM: Joe Grisolano, President
Kansas County Officials Association

SUBJECT: SB 207

Chairman Huebert and Committee members:

Thank you for allowing me to provide testimony regarding Senate Bill 207. I am here on behalf of the Kansas County Officials Association to voice our support for Senate Bill 207.

Senate Bill 207 would allow a county to accept a credit or debit card for any payment, including those for taxes and utility fees providing a convenience choice for our customers. In today's financial world many customers of the county would like the option to choose to use their credit cards for transacting business. Unlike private business the County cannot pass along in price increases to its customers the cost of the transaction charged by the credit card company resulting from the customer choosing to use that method of payment.

This bill would allow a county official to add a fee to each transaction equal to the charge to the county for a payment made using the card. In fairness to the customer making the choice to use their credit card, the bill provides for the county to provide notice of any such fee.

The bill would exempt any such transaction from a provision in the Consumer Credit Code that prohibits a seller or lessor from adding a surcharge on a payment made by credit or debit card.

On behalf of the Kansas County Officials Association I encourage you to pass Senate Bill 207 out of your committee favorably. Thank you for your consideration in this matter.