



TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE
ON SB 283
JANUARY 25, 2012

Chairman Owens and Members of the Committee:

I appreciate the opportunity to offer testimony in support of SB 283.

The Kansas Association of Counties recognizes the time and effort required of the county sheriffs in serving and returning service of process. We understand that the fees contained in the current law do not cover those expenses, and the new language is intended to accurately reflect the actual costs of serving process.

As printed, we were concerned about new (g) on page 2. County counselors raised concerns that tax foreclosures would fall under the definition of "debt collection" and would incur these additional costs. Because the fees would be paid by the county to the firm collecting the debt, who then paid the fees to the sheriff, the new provision equated to stealing from Peter to pay Paul.

The Sheriffs Association has shared with us their amendment for section (g) which clarifies that the exemption from the fee will continue for counties enforcing tax foreclosures (and other county debt collections).

With the amendment, we support the legislation and asked that the Committee pass SB 283 as amended.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Melissa Wangemann".

Melissa A. Wangemann

General Counsel and Director of Legislative Services