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8500 Santa Fe Drive
Overland Park, Kansas 66212
913-895-6000 | www.opkansas.org

**Senate Committee on Assessment and Taxation
Written Statement in Support of SB 111
by Dick Carter, Jr.
February 8, 2017**

Good Morning Chairman Tyson, Vice Chair Kerschen and Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Assessment and Taxation. The City of Overland Park presents this written statement in support of SB 111.

States and local governments have seen sales tax revenues eroded by remote sales on the Internet. Retail sales taxes represent the largest single source of revenue for the City of Overland Park.

A growing percentage of consumers will research a purchase in a local retail store then make their purchase online. This method undermines the local business owner/manager's ability to maintain a fair and level playing field in the market.

Furthermore, the collection and remittance of sales tax on Internet purchases would halt the leakage of revenues duly owed to the state, and would reduce the need for state and local governments to review and/or raise sales tax to make up for lost revenues to the state.

As bricks and mortar retailers continue to adapt to the changing marketplace, it has become imperative that taxation on Internet sales be addressed. The collection of sales and use tax from Internet sales is not a new tax, but one that has been difficult to enforce in the past.

The City appreciates the spirit and intent of SB 111 and supports methods that implement the simplification and fairness in administration and collection of sales and use taxes for online transactions.