

March 15, 2017
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Written Opposition testimony – SCR 1602
Senate Assessment and Taxation Committee

Dear Chairwoman Caryn Tyson and the members of the Senate Committee on Assessment and Taxation:

I OPPOSE Senate Concurrent Resolution SCR1602.

It is irresponsible to cut revenue generating when the State has a huge deficit. Currently, we can not meet to the needs of the State. Kansas needs to focus on resolving the State Budget before it can analyze the impact of SCR1602 on resources.

My family and I will be affected by funding shortages to KanCare. I have a son with Muscular Dystrophy. I am approaching retirement years and cuts in services and programs will hurt me. Education is already a problem and will deteriorate. Roads in Kansas are already in need of repair and roads with large potholes add to wear and tear on vehicles and cause accidents.

SCR 1602 keeps Kansas from growing and to meet the needs of its citizens. With the current Budget crisis this bill will make it worse and impossible to reconcile. SCR1602 limits generating revenue and adds an extreme, inflexible formula-based cap to the Kansas Constitution on state revenue and investments,

The bill does not allow Kansas to adjust revenue for a changing population. Kansas prides itself in promoting new businesses to move to Kansas. What is the purpose of spending huge sums to attract new businesses when the Revenue will not support the people it attracts? These people Kansas attracts will get older; require education for their children, roads to drive to work etc.

The new legislation passed recently in US Congress and Kansas State legislature will impact the State. For instance no access to abortion, birth control and prenatal care will increase needs for foster care, medical services for premature births and disabilities. Increased population will require increased services across the board including education, housing, etc.

Please seriously consider Colorado's disastrous experience with TABOR and learn and reject the proposal.

In the wealthiest nation of the world and an abundance of resources, we need to keep our focus on how we can enhance our lifestyles of all citizens.

Thank you for your consideration,
Jan Gallagher