



## SUPREME COURT OF KANSAS

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Senate Judiciary  
Testimony in Support of  
Senate Bill 261 – Transferring Duty to Appoint Appraisers

Shawn Jurgensen  
Special Counsel to the Chief Justice

Chairman Wilborn and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to appear here today to testify in support of Senate Bill 261. I am Shawn Jurgensen, Special Counsel to Chief Justice Lawton Nuss, and the legislative liaison for the Judicial Branch.

Under K.S.A. 75-3043a, the Judicial Administrator is responsible for appointing a disinterested appraiser when the state of Kansas purchases or disposes of real property, in order to determine the market value of the property. If the value of the property, as determined by the county appraiser, is over \$200,000, the judicial administrator may appoint three disinterested appraisers to determine the market-value of the property. If below \$200,000 in county appraised value, the judicial administrator must appoint one disinterested appraiser to determine the market-value of the property. SB 261 proposes transferring the duty to appoint appraisers from the Judicial Administrator to the Director of Property Valuation at the Kansas Department of Revenue.

This change is proposed because the duty to appoint appraisers in these scenarios is far-removed from duties tied to judicial administration. The Office of Judicial Administration and the Kansas Department of Revenue have agreed that the Director of Property Valuation is a more appropriate person to appoint these appraisers. My office has worked with the Director of Property Valuation and the Department of Revenue's legislative liaison, Mr. Jaylen Lane, and Mr. Lane asked that I inform the committee that he is in attendance today and will stand for any questions the committee has following my testimony.

Thank you allowing me to testify today and for your consideration of this bill. I'm happy to answer any questions you may have.