



**KANSAS**  
ASSOCIATION OF  
**COUNTIES**

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Testimony of the Kansas Association of Counties to the  
Senate House Committee on Assessment and Taxation  
Testimony in support of SB 191 • March 20, 2019

Madam Chair and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for allowing the Kansas Association of Counties the opportunity to testify in support of SB 191. SB 191 would allow for an exception to the tax lid for transportation construction projects.

Kansas Counties are responsible for maintaining over 80% of the roads in Kansas, as well as over 75% of the bridges. This maintenance has a cost. Additionally, as the needs of communities change, Kansas counties must upgrade or construct new roads to allow for the growth of communities and the commerce that supports the local economy.

Transportation is a critical part of the state. Food must travel from farm to table. Employees must travel to and from work. People travel for leisure and recreation. A good transportation system allows for all of this to be done safely and efficiently. However, a good transportation system has a cost. At the local level, dollars equal services, including whether a road or bridge is maintained, upgraded, replaced or closed. Those decisions have a ripple effect throughout communities and regions in the state.

Allowing counties to tap into local funds for construction projects allows Kansas to maintain a strong transportation system. We ask that the committee recommend SB 191 for passage. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Jay Hall

Kansas Association of Counties

