

County Clerk
Pam Carrion
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Haskell County
P.O. Box 518
Sublette, Kansas 67877

County Commissioners
1st Dist. Marcus Rogge
2nd Dist. Charles Lozar
3rd Dist. Bill Lower

February 3, 2020

Honorable Kansas State Senator Caryn Tyson

RE: SB 294, Concerning Property Taxation; Relating to Tax Rates; Truth in Taxation

Chairman Tyson and Distinguished Committee Members:

My name is Pam Carrion. I am the County Clerk for Haskell County. Thank you, in advance, for listening to the reasons for my opposition to Senate Bill 294.

The timeline you require for each of our governing bodies to meet is virtually impossible. Budgets laws are still in place. Our school districts, cities, hospital districts and townships are not required by K.S.A. 79-1801 to turn their budgets into the Clerk's office until August 25th.


We have school districts that overlap county lines, which would require more than one county clerk to send notices to the taxpayers. The costs of salaries, postage, envelopes, and the paper for the notices to be mailed would be billed to the taxing entity by each clerk. SB 294 states that the cost of this would be paid for by the governing entity, however, this would eventually end up being paid by the taxpayer.

My office has only two employees. During that time of year, we struggle to meet deadlines. If this bill were enacted, we may be required to hire additional staff to meet the requirements.

At this time, we do not have software that would calculate the certified tax rate. If implemented, we would need to check with our software provider, to see if a program can be written. The timeline and cost for this is currently unknown.

Thank you for your consideration, and please feel free to contact me if you would like to discuss this issue further.

Sincerely,


Pamela Carrion
Haskell County Clerk

