

February 6, 2019

**To: Kansas Senate Ethics, Elections and Local Government Committee**

**Re: Support for SB 59**

Members of the Ethics, Elections and Local Government Committee:

Please accept this statement of support for the passage of SB 49, the Eudora community library act.

The three public pillars that affect much of our community include Eudora Public Library, Parks and Rec and our public schools. Our town lacks a newspaper, a radio station and any entertainment venues such as a movie theatre or bowling alley. We depend on these Eudora pillars, especially the library, for local information, entertainment, supplemental education, and even food as it provides free summer lunches through its Feeding Eudora program. It is a local hub for all ages and a supervised haven for children when school is not in session.

Since its establishment in 1968 Eudora Library has served our citizens well. However, Eudora has tripled in size since 1968 and our library needs as much support as it can get to meet the needs of our growing community. The establishment of an autonomous district by a joint resolution of the City Commission and the Township Board will provide a better representation of the community that uses the library and allow supportive resources and partnerships to be better accessed.

On a personal note we frequently use the library in a variety of ways. In addition to checking out books and movies at the library, our family has utilized the library for its children's and teen programs. These programs provide fun, educational and social activities during the summer and the school year. Additionally, one of my children attends a virtual school and the Eudora library has been supportive by helping him find additional resources for his school work.

We are proud of our local library and how it has taken a leadership role in our community. We would like it to be around for many years to come. Thank you for considering SB 49.

Sincerely,



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