



Committee Assistant: John Gauntt

I am writing this e-mail to you as I plan to testify in favor and support Senate Bill 514 on Thursday, March 3, 2022, at 9:30 AM in Room 548.

This is my statement

Senator Tyson Chairwomen and other members of the Assessment and Taxation Committee.

As President of the Lecompton Historical Society, we strongly endorse Senate Bill 514. There are many rich Civil War and Native American sites in Kansas. Senate Bill 514 will provide the residents of Kansas the opportunity to donate revenue with the goal of providing income to support our unique history. Many Kansans are not aware of the term "Civil War Birthplace Where Slavery began to Die". This history when promoted in Kansas and elsewhere in the United States can be economic development for all locations. Motor coaches and tourist need locations to stay and eat; and many of our rural historic sites do not have those amenities nearby. The average motor coach spends several thousand dollars each night in Kansas. How many of you have spent time and money visiting the Civil War and Revolutionary Sites in other states? We hope you have visited Kansas Historic Sites and agree Kansas has tremendous possibilities for economic development through tourism. Kansas Travel and Tourism under the direction of Bridgette Jobe does a wonderful job within a limited budget compared to surrounding states. The new revenue may be spent on advertising and travel promotions which are not covered by the Kansas State Historic Sites for the historic sites across Kansas.

I do have questions:

May an individual donate money to this fund at any time of the year or only when they receive their tax return? Part of the reason for the question is that currently if an individual donates \$250 to a specific site that money is credited to the Kansas State Historical Foundation fund. This redirection is automatically controlled by the cash register at the site. The local site only receives credit for donations less than \$250.

Will funds from the new source of revenue be protected from being deducted from the present budget for the Kansas State Historic Sites?

What will be the procedure for the administrator at the sites to receive this money and who will determine if the money can be spent in the manner the administrator requests?

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