



Shawnee County Office of County Treasurer

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LARRY MAH
COUNTY TREASURER

Kansas Senate Ways and Means Committee

Chairman Rick Billinger

HB 2567

March 16, 2022

Chairman Billinger and Members of the Ways and Means Committee. I am submitting testimony in support of House Bill HB 2567. The current fee model is unnecessarily complicated and has not been modified since 2013. Significant changes in the work flow and responsibilities associated with motor vehicle registrations have taken place in the last 8 years. The current fee model has not been modified during that time. Consequently, it fails to recognize the current costs associated with today's process.

A review of the revenues and expenses in Shawnee County from 2014 through 2021 illustrates how much the discrepancy between revenues and expense has grown. In 2014 fees collected by Shawnee County were \$1,572,611. The fees collected in 2021 were \$1,586,134. This equates to an increase of \$13,523. During the same period, expenses grew from \$1,200,277 to \$1,449,920. An increase of \$249,643 while the work force was reduced by 10% and the number of transactions grew by 3%.

Projections for 2022 look much worse. While revenues are expected to stay the same, expenses are expected to increase by \$235,403. In 2014, Shawnee County paid \$9.40 per hour for entry level clerical. That wage has increased to \$11.76 in 2021 and will increase to \$13.67 in 2022 resulting in a single year increase in expenses for wages of \$220,875. This will result in a deficit of \$85,276.

While the \$13.67 per hour wage is a significant increase, it cannot compete with the \$15 per hour that McDonalds offers and the \$20 per hour being paid at the Home Depot and Target warehouses located on Topeka.

The current fee structure is not sustainable. I respectfully request your support of HB 2567.

Thank you,

Larry Mah

Shawnee County Treasurer