



# WALLACE COUNTY

## WALLACE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

PO Box 70  
313 Main Street  
Sharon Springs, KS 67758

Phone: 785.852.4282  
FAX: 785.852.4310

To: Chairman Shannon Francis and members of the Kansas House Transportation Committee

From: Larry Townsend, Michael Cowles, Becky Larson – Wallace County Board of Commissioners

Re: HB 2148 – Proponent Testimony

Date: Tuesday, January 31, 2023

Chairman Francis and members of the Kansas House Transportation Committee:

On behalf of Wallace County, we appreciate the opportunity to provide written testimony for HB 2148. Over the last several years, we have watched the rising costs associated with our motor vehicle office. With wavering revenues of approximately \$20,000 and annual deficits of over \$100,000, it is necessary to budget for all motor vehicle expenses such as paper, toner, utilities, salaries & benefits within our general fund. The costs associated with computer equipment, previously provided by the State of Kansas, has also become the responsibility of county government, with no additional financial support to help fund these requirements; necessities to provide our public with a state service.

As county commissioners, it is our goal to be fiscally responsible, reducing property taxes and expenses when and where we are able. HB 2148 provides financial support for county motor vehicle offices, without increasing the cost to the customer. Due to the removal of the \$4.00 DMV Modernization Fee, contained in HB 2148, the average customer will see a decrease of 2.36. This bill not only strengthens the revenue our county motor vehicle office will see but will also provide the ability to reduce our county mill levy, lessening the property tax burden for our taxpayers.

Thank you for your time and consideration on HB 2148.

Respectfully,

Larry Townsend, Chairman  
Wallace County Board of County Commissioners

Michael Cowles, Commissioner

Becky Larson, Commissioner