

The City of Lansing

Mayor McNeill & Lansing City Council www.lansingks.org

> Senate Committee on Assessment and Taxation January 11, 2024 Senate Bill 196 Testimony In Support of SB 196

Chairwoman Tyson & Members of the Committee:

Please consider this letter as the City's of Lansing's full support for SB 196. Like many cities, the topic of property taxes comes up regularly. The City of Lansing has strived to be responsible with our resources, lowering our property tax mill levy from 41.031 in 2021, to 32.912 for the 2023 tax year, coming in below the Revenue Neutral Rate two consecutive years.

Despite this reduction of 8.119 mills in two years, our residents still voice concerns with skyrocketing property taxes. Residents have reached out to council members with concerns about the viability of staying in their homes long-term. Our residents do not care where the property tax relief comes from, whether it be State, County, City, School Districts, or other boards. Leavenworth County has approved a resolution verifying that any funds received from the Local Ad Valorem Tax Reduction Fund would go toward reducing property taxes, with recent estimates showing a reduction of 3.5 mills. We anticipate this reduction to save the owner of a \$300,000 home at least \$120 per year. Likewise, should any funds be distributed to Lansing our City Council would put 100% of the funds toward mill levy reduction.

The City of Lansing is thrilled about the potential SB 196 has to reduce property taxes for our residents. Regardless of whether this reduction comes from State, County, or City, anything we can do to alleviate the tax burden on our residents is viewed by the City of Lansing as a worthwhile endeavor.

Sincerely,

Anthony R. (Tony) McNeill

Mayor

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