

February 16, 2015

The Honorable Steve Huebert, Chairperson
House Committee on Local Government
Statehouse, Room 149-S
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Representative Huebert:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for HB 2236 by House Committee on Local Government

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2236 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

HB 2236 would amend existing law relating to the qualifications and rehabilitation of abandoned property to add to the definition of "abandoned property" any residential real estate continuously unoccupied by those in legal possession for the preceding 180 days and which has a blighting influence on surrounding properties. The bill would amend the definition of "blighting influence" to include a structure which is dangerous or injurious to the welfare, including the economic welfare, of the occupants of the building or other residents or properties in the area.

Current law allows an organization to file a petition with the district court for an order of temporary possession of an abandoned property if the organization intends to rehabilitate the property and use it as housing. HB 2236 would also allow the petition if the organization intends to use the property for community or economic development purposes. In addition, the bill would allow the governing body of a city to file a petition with the district court for an order of temporary possession of a property, if the property meets the statutory definition of abandoned and the governing body has designated an organization to rehabilitate the property. The organization designated must intend to rehabilitate the property and use it as housing or for community or economic development purposes. The bill also includes requirements for the governing body to make a final attempt to contact the parties in interest of the property.

The League of Kansas Municipalities is unable to estimate what fiscal effect passage of HB 2236 would have on Kansas cities since it is unable to determine how many qualified persons or cities would take action based upon the new provisions of the bill.

Sincerely,



Shawn Sullivan,
Director of the Budget

cc: Larry Baer, League of Municipalities