

To: Senate Ethics, Elections, and Local Government Committee

From: Amanda L. Stanley, General Counsel

Date: February 12, 2019

RE: Support for SB 59, Written Only

I want to thank Chairwoman Bowers and the Committee members for allowing the League of Kansas Municipalities the opportunity to provide testimony in support of SB 59.

The League of Kansas Municipalities has been working with the City of Eudora to find a solution to what appears to have been an unanticipated consequence of being declared a city of the second class in 2010. When Eudora transitioned to a city of the second class, statutorily it was no longer considered part of the library district. Cities of the third class remain a part of the territorial jurisdiction limits of the township under K.S.A. 15-104; however, cities of the first and second class are specifically excluded from the corporate limits of any township under K.S.A. 80-1404. Under K.S.A. 12-1231, a city of the third class can form a library district with its territorial township. Despite no longer being a city of the third class, the citizens of Eudora desire to continue to be part of the library district that has existed for fifty years with equal representation with the Eudora township. Because of the taxing authority, governance representation, and bonding issues involved, the only way to accomplish this goal is legislatively with SB 59. There is no way statutorily for a township to form a library district with a city of the 2nd class.

We believe this bill represents the will of the local community and ask that you pass SB 59 favorably to the full Senate for its consideration.