

Senate Assessment and Taxation Committee March 11, 2021 **SB** 76

> Kansas Association of Counties **Proponent Testimony**

Chairwoman Tyson and members of the Committee:

Thank you for allowing the Kansas Association of Counties to offer testimony on SB 76, which would provide property tax relief to eligible individuals. KAC fully supports the idea proposed in SB 76. KAC also supports the current programs in Kansas law addressing property tax relief, the selective assistance for effective senior relief (SAFESR) and the homestead property tax refund.

With that being said, KAC would request that, rather than creating a new program in addition to the SAFESR and homestead property tax refund, that the eligibility parameters and benefits for these programs be combined to create a single property tax relief program. A single program will be much easier to administer at both the state and local level. In addition, a single program will be easier for individuals to understand, likely making the program more effective. Under this bill, no individual would be able to utilize more than one of these programs, so merging the programs into a single program makes practical sense.

KAC would encourage the committee to combine the eligibility and relief offered in the SAFESR, homestead property tax refund, and Golden Years homestead property tax freeze into a single property tax relief program to aid eligible Kansans.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this information to the committee. KAC stands ready to answer questions at the appropriate time.

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