



## SEDGWICK COUNTY, KANSAS

### SHERIFF'S OFFICE

**Jeff Easter**

**Sheriff**

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#### Testimony to Committee on Assessment and Taxation Opponent Testimony on SB 319

Chairwoman Tyson and Committee Members,

I, Sheriff Jeff Easter with the Sedgwick County Sheriff's Office is submitting testimony opposing SB 319.

Currently, Sedgwick County along with most counties in Kansas, conduct auctions as SB 319 characterizes. In Sedgwick County, we conduct two auctions a year that are very large events. The Sheriff's Office, Treasurer's Office, Sedgwick County Finance and County Counselor's Office for both auctions provide personnel for the auction. The total amount of personnel used is 15 employees. In Sedgwick County, we also pay an outside attorney to set up and oversee the auction along with an auctioneer.

Approximately, 6 months ago the Sedgwick County Sheriff's Office along with the Treasurer's Office started looking at an on-line auction company to conduct our auctions. During the research, we discovered that we would save expenses on personnel costs, outside attorney costs and auctioneer costs. We have started the process to convert our auctions to on-line services.

We do not believe that taxpayers in Sedgwick County should be burdened with costs if alternatives can be accomplished to streamline the process and cut costs. This bill as written does not affect most sheriff's offices across Kansas by still doing business as usual. However, this bill does preclude counties that already have gone to on-line auction services and any county wanting to do so in the future.

I ask the committee to consider not passing this bill out of committee because of the reasons stated above.

Respectfully,

Sheriff Jeffrey T. Easter  
Sedgwick County Sheriff's Office

