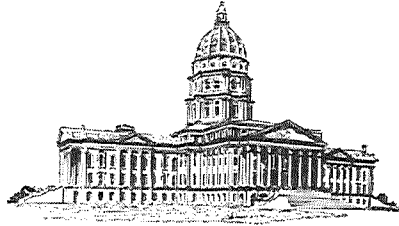


State of Kansas
House of Representatives

State Capitol, 167-W
Topeka, Kansas 66612
(785) 296-7557
eric.smith@house.ks.gov



627 Kennebec St.
Burlington, Kansas 66839
(620) 490-1458
elsmith4hd76@gmail.com

Eric L. Smith
Representative, 76th District

February 7th, 2023

RE: HB2150- Repealing the city planning authority 3-mile zone beyond city boundaries

Chairman Bergquist, Vice Chair Blex, Ranking Member Featherston and Members of the committee,

It is in the interest of the citizens that we serve to recognize their innate rights, not least of which is property ownership. While it's important to create regulations and rules that we must adhere to, so that we do not infringe on the rights of each other, there are situations that we have created that serve less purpose and cause indiscriminate harm to the individual sovereignty within society that we each are given by our Creator.

Practically speaking, the current growth of the urban sprawl, especially around larger population centers in Kansas, brings this issue to greater importance. The values of those who wish to live outside of urban society are often in great contrast to those who enjoy the opportunities and access within the structure of city streets and neighborhoods. We who choose to live rurally are different in needs and desires than those who prefer the energy of urban living.

The choice to live outside of the city and its structure is not without reason. Yet, we watch the march of urbanization without influence on where it goes and without the ability to easily pick up and move away from it. When a city annexes an industrial zone 2 miles away, the family living within that 3 mile zone didn't have an influential vote or a voice whether to become part of that plan. What is the value of one family's preference against the value of 'progress'?

I am in favor of the repeal of the 3-mile zone of authority option given to cities, outside of their city annexed and zoned political boundaries, because that is what they should be: boundaries.

Respectfully,

Eric L. Smith
House District 76