



David T. Dennis
Commissioner - Third District

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SEDGWICK COUNTY, KANSAS

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February 6, 2023

To: The Honorable Shannon Francis and House Committee Members on Transportation

Re: HB 2148

Chair Francis and members of the Committee:

As a Sedgwick County Commissioner, I am submitting written testimony in support of House Bill 2148.

At this time, funding generated through the Motor Vehicle Fund in Sedgwick County is inadequate to cover the costs of operations. In fiscal year 2022, Sedgwick County Government subsidized these operations by about \$270,000. Due to increased operating costs, it is anticipated that this subsidy could increase to nearly \$500,000 in 2023 and beyond. This subsidy would be covered by Sedgwick County taxpayers. This could result in some constituents paying for the same service twice – once when he or she registers a vehicle, and then again through property taxes paid to the County. Alternatively, taxpayers that don't drive would still be subsidizing the service through their property tax dollars.

The State Legislature has the ability to help alleviate this burden to County taxpayers by improving the existing fee structure; in addition, I have been advised that HB 2148 lowers the average fee paid by constituents by \$2.36 for titling and registering vehicles. The bill also would create transparency by eliminating “hidden fees” and simplifying the structure. Thank you for your time and consideration of this testimony.

Thank you very much for your consideration of this bill.

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Sedgwick County ... working for you