

Osage County Commissioners

Osage County Courthouse
P.O. Box 226
Lyndon, Kansas 66451 - 0226

TESTIMONY OF MICHAEL D. PRUITT ON

HB2735

BEFORE THE HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

My name is Michael Pruitt; I am appearing on behalf of Osage County, specifically Commission District #2 on the eastside of the county. I am a proponent for HB 2735.

The Rails Trails are supposed to provide the following and have not:

- A. Bond for Insurance to the county every year
- B. Fence along trail, take care of noxious weeds
- C. Provide for security and safety along trail
- D. Maintenance of the trail-Overbrook to Lomax & other locations.

Specifically in the areas of Overbrook to Lomax:

- A. No trail – fenced over and many times grown over.
- B. Trussels are rotten & washed out
- C. Two bridges are on county roads and they are about ready to collapse. The bridges were rated at a 5 out of 10 two years ago. These bridges are used by school buses and farm equipment.
- D. These two bridges are not county bridges, totally on Rails Trails right-of-way and roads will have to be closed soon if these bridges are not repaired or replaced.

No enforcing of Rails Trails rules & regulations and no one knows who to contact in case of an emergency or any other problems that may come up.