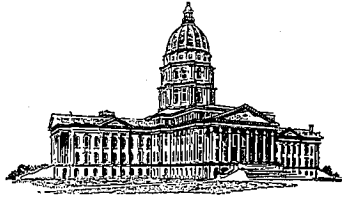


STATE OF KANSAS



TOPEKA

HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES

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Feb. 11, 2013

Thank you Chairman Carlson for this opportunity to speak and testify today on HB 2063.

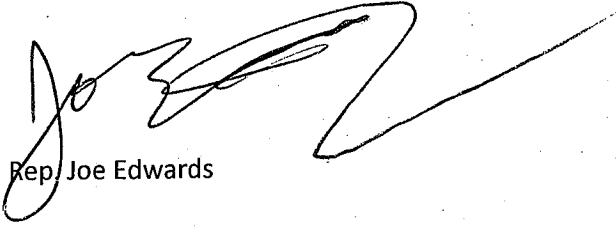
On April 14, 2012, a tornado hit just east of Haysville, Ks, where I live. My youngest brother's home was spared but within minutes the news media told us that the Peniar Mobile Home Park just south of the commonly known housing area in SE Wichita as Oaklawn has been virtually destroyed by the tornado along with about 2 blocks of Oaklan on the far south end and then the tornado went above ground and hit Boeing Plant doing millions of Dollars in damage. For the next 3 to 4 hours we could not find my oldest brother and his wife Doyle and Sheryl Edwards. We prayed and we searched and finally my brother Randy called and said he had found them at the house in Pinaire and their home and cars where destroyed but they who had rode the storm out in a bathtub in the front of their 16 x 80 mobile home were safe and sound. We do give God Praise and Honor for this miracle.

Upon helping them with lodging and finding transportation, we thought what more can we do. Then at the end of 2012, Doyle called and said that he was very upset because he was being charged for property taxes for the mobile home, a home destroyed in a tornado on April 14th, and was signed over for destruction to the property owner of Pinaire on a date a week or so later. Doyle related that he had to pay the FULL year in taxes and that he was blown away with the callousness of the people at the tax office in Sedgwick County.

Fast Forward to the elections of 2012. After being elected my brother who is 2 years senior to me asked if we could put together a bill that would stop this nonsense. After asking Legislative Research and finding out that the can of worms that would be opened, we were suggested to get the Revisors to write this bill before you today. It is a good bill, it will only affect a person from this bill forward that loses personal property due to a disaster such as tornado, flooding, high winds etc. It will not assist my brother unless an amendment is offered up to include the year of 2012 by a committee member, I wish I has thought of this prior to getting the bill done but hindsight is better than foresight.

I urge this committee to pass HB 2063 as written and send it for approval of the House and the Senate to give assistance to those who loose virtually everything in a Natural Disaster, that they had not any control over.

Thanks for this opportunity to speak today.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joe Edwards', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Rep. Joe Edwards