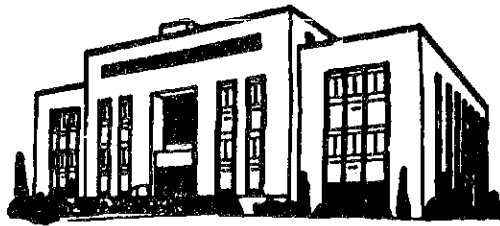


Board of County Commissioners
Sumner County Courthouse
Wellington, KS 67152
620-326-5121; 326-3395
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BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Steve Warner
1st District
Jim D. Newell
2nd District
Cliff Bales
3rd District

February 8, 2018

Chairman Barker and members of the House Federal and State Affairs Committee:

Sumner County opposes HB 2545 and urges a NO vote on this legislation. Without question this legislation will have a negative economic impact on Sumner County.

This bill seeks a revote in Sedgwick County for slot machines at Wichita Greyhound Park. This proposed election would blatantly and illegally disregard the binding referendum in 2007 when voters defeated questions on casinos and slots at the track, thus rendering Sedgwick County unable to have gaming prior to July 1, 2032.

Sumner County voters overwhelmingly approved gaming in their county, and casino companies applied for the management contract and proposed destination resort projects costing a minimum of \$225 million plus a \$25 million privilege fee. These proposals relied on the outcome of the referendum that no gaming would be conducted in Sedgwick County. The Kansas Star won the competition and developed a casino, hotel and event center to serve the entire south central Kansas market.

It should be further noted that HB 2545 eliminates the 1% of revenue sharing to Sumner County which is also contrary to state law. Once again, Sumner County and the Kansas Star's reliance on existing law would be totally disregarded by HB 2545.

Finally, our reading of the bill reveals numerous violations of the Kansas Expanded Lottery Act, the Kansas and U.S. Constitutions and the contract between the Kansas Star and the Kansas Lottery. If HB 2545 is passed, years of litigation and turmoil are assured, exposing the State to significant fiscal jeopardy.

Sumner County asks that you vote against HB2545.

Respectfully,

Sumner County Board of County Commissioners