

Dighton USD 482

Office of Superintendent

PO Box 878
Dighton, KS 67839

Phone: 620-397-2835
Fax: 620-397-5932
www.usd482.org

March 30, 2017

To: Committee on Taxation

From: Kelly Arnberger, Superintendent USD 482

Re: House Bill 2406

Members,

I appreciate your taking the time to consider my testimony in favor of HB 2406. I will not go into great detail regarding the financial issues facing school districts as you are well aware.

Specifically, I am in favor of this bill as K.S.A. 2016 Supp. 79-227 as written resulted in significant revenue loss for my school district, USD 482, and the county.

The White Cliff pipeline did not meet statutory requirement for exemption when first constructed. The assessed valuation resulted in our district collecting approximately \$190,000 in revenue to support our LOB, Capital Outlay, Recreation Commission, and Bond/Interest fund. This number does not include the support for the 20 mill general fund levy.

With the ability to gain the exemption after initial construction, the valuation loss will result in our district being compelled to increase our mill rate 10 mills just to maintain current authority. What makes it more troubling is our county has already absorbed a 40% decrease in valuation the past two years.

I understand the bill will not eliminate this particular exemption. However, repealing the current law to ensure surprise exemptions in this manner do not continue will allow for responsible planning for the needs of the patrons of our county and our school.

Thank you again for taking time to consider this testimony in favor of HB 2406.

Respectfully,



Kelly Arnberger