

To: Senate Tax Committee

From: Clair Donnelly, Mayor
Richard LaMunyon, City Administrator
City of Maize

Date: March 14, 2017

Subject: Senate Bill 167 - Tax Lid Legislation

The City of Maize is on record, along with the overwhelming majority of all Kansas cities and counties, in opposing the current legislation.

The existing law was ill conceived, lacked proper planning, and was enacted without input from those most greatly impacted.

As a result we now have a law that is unworkable, confusing and places unreasonable and unnecessary burdens on the governing entities closest to the people they serve.

The City of Maize recommendation is to repeal the current law immediately.

Notwithstanding the fact, the current law is both impractical and operationally feeble; the City of Maize is in complete support of repealing the current law:

The reasoning for this support is practical:

- Special Elections cost our Citizens money and requires City staff time and effort.
- Cities, specifically smaller ones, have neither the staffing nor money to put toward this effort. The money that is available can be better utilized.
- The election provisions of the law are incomplete and ambiguous.
- There is little to no direction regarding how to handle the election and its timing.
- The formula for a tax increase based on the KSA 79-2925c will be inconsistent year-to-year and will require an educational process for citizens. The protest petition would allow for this.
- A protest driven petition does not change the law just the election process.
- In summary, the current tax lid law costs money, staff time, lacks direction, is operationally unworkable and decreases overall efficiency.

The City of Maize continues to be in opposition to the current law and supports its total and complete repeal.