



Testimony of the Kansas Association of Counties
to the Senate Committee on Federal & State Affairs
Opposing SB 76
February 1, 2017

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in opposition to SB 76.

SB 76 limits the authority of political subdivisions, including counties, from imposing occupational fees and licensing requirements. Cities and counties have long possessed the police power to regulate business, trade and occupations in order to protect the public; this legislation negates the local control of cities and counties to provide these protective measures.

The bill affects counties by:

- Prohibiting any occupational fee or licensing requirement after the effective date of the bill.
- Prohibiting any additional regulation on any professionals that are subject to licensing requirements by a state licensing agency. If the State imposes any regulation on a profession, the local government may not continue to require occupational fees and licensing requirements for that profession.
- Limiting the occupational fee to \$25 per year. The bill also waives the fee for low-income individuals and military families.
- Requiring the licensing application to be processed within 30 days of receipt.

Licensing requirements are used by local government to ensure certain standards are met by businesses in their community. These programs help ensure competency and professionalism, and protect citizens from unskilled and deceptive practices.

Lastly we ask: what problem in Kansas does SB 76 address? To our knowledge, there has been no overreach by locals on this type of regulation, and we have not heard any complaints from citizens.

We oppose SB 76 and ask the committee to consider our concerns during its deliberation of this bill.

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