



To: Senate Ethics, Elections and Local Government

Re: Testimony in Support of Senate Bill 59

Date: February 6, 2019

Honorable Chairperson Bowers and Members of the Committee:

My name is Tim Reazin, I am the Mayor of Eudora, Kansas. I am speaking on behalf of the Eudora City Commission and as a Eudora resident, in support of Senate Bill 59, an Act relating to Eudora Community Library. In 1968, both City and Township residents seeing a need for a library, voted to establish one that would serve the community. Prior to 2011, the City of Eudora was a third-class City thus part of the Eudora Township.

The Eudora Township Public Library has passionately served people in my City. Over the years, I have watched the Library provide outstanding services to community members. They are no longer just checking out books, they are offering programs and events such as; Summer Reading, Adult Reading Classes, workshops, Story Time, Youth Programs, among others. They provide all these services to not only make Eudora a desirable place to live but to make our lives better.

About two years ago, the Library worked with community members to form a nonprofit organization called Feeding Eudora. This was an organization created to feed those children that need food during the summer time when the schools are closed yet they need food. Because of their effort, many children in my community will at least have a meal in the summer.

Our Library is innovative, progressive, adaptive and always there to fill gaps the City is not always equipped or resourced to fill. I believe because of their autonomy, they can rapidly respond to community needs. Senate Bill 59 will fortify the Library's independence and allow the Library Board to broaden their vision, expand programs, and continue with their effort to make the Library the place to go for services residents need to live a dignified life.

The Library is a critical partner in our quest to make Eudora the best place to live, work, play and raise a family. We cannot enhance the quality of life of all residents without the Library. We need to ensure its continued existence. Senate Bill 59 does this. I urge you to pass SB 59 as introduced.

Thank you for allowing me to address the Committee in support of SB 59.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tim Reazin", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Tim Reazin
Mayor