

TO: House Committee on Taxation

Rep. John Alcala, Rep. Francis Averkamp, Rep. Dave Baker, Rep. Brian Bergkamp, Rep. Doug Blex, Rep. Stephanie Clayton, Rep. Ken Corbet, Rep. John Eplee, Rep. Henry Helgerson, Rep. Ron Highland, Rep. Jim Kelly, Rep. Tom Kessler, Rep. Samantha Poetter Parshall, Rep. Richard Proehl, Rep. Clarke Sanders, Rep. Chuck Schmidt, Rep. Jerry Stogsdill, Rep. Carl Turner, Rep. Barbara Wasinger, Rep. Brandon Woodard

RE: Countywide Sales Tax - HB 2738

Dear Honorable House members:

I am opposed to House Bill 2738 in its current form.

The Kansas shared county wide sales tax has been in effect for the last 43 years and has been utilized across the state. In 2020, 93 of the 105 counties levy and share this tax totaling over \$271 million going to 492 cities and over \$214 million going to 93 counties.

In Cherokee County, 55.54% of the population lives inside incorporate cities with most of the sales tax generated in those cities. It is my belief that tax generated within cities should benefit the residents in the cities generating the taxes.

House Bill 2738 would allow counties to remove the county tax (as the current legislation does not require counties to share the tax) and the tax dollar benefit to residents in our cities would disappear.

In Columbus, the county tax sharing generates almost 20% of our tax base. Since cities in Kansas have only two major sources of revenue (sales tax & property tax), the loss of 20% in Columbus would have a major negative impact on our mil levy or a major impact on the services that are our residents pay for and deserve.

Thank you for your service.

Sincerely,



Grant Spieth  
Mayor  
City of Columbus