

February 8, 2022

To: Kansas House Transportation Committee

From: Joe Grisolano, Crawford County Treasurer

Subject: HB 2567

Chairman Proehl and Committee members:

I am providing written testimony to support HB 2567 on behalf of the Kansas County Treasurers Association. This legislation originated from a small group of County Treasurers, the Department of Revenue, and legislators from the Transportation Committees of both the House and Senate. This group met to develop an understanding of County Motor Vehicle operations and deal with stagnant revenues and rising costs of performing Motor Vehicle work for Kansans. The group determined the need to simplify the complex fee structure and make it more transparent.

Under current law, the fee structure is complicated, hard to explain, and not transparent. HB 2567 removes all hidden fees from the statutes and replaces them with one \$10.00 flat fee the county retains to support Motor Vehicle services. If this bill becomes law, the average increase for all motor vehicle transactions is only \$1.64. This legislation also eliminates all satellite office and facility fees some counties charge, with no fee differences from county to county. All fees would be the same statewide and every customer would see the amount the county keeps on their receipt.

County Treasurers work as agents of the state to provide vehicle title and registration services for all Kansans, which is a valuable service. The fees the county retains for these services should cover all costs for providing the services. Due to stagnant revenues and rising costs, the fees retained no longer cover all costs. Currently, virtually every county receives county tax levy support to cover some Motor Vehicle expenses. If HB 2567 becomes law, it would greatly decrease or totally eliminate the property tax support.

County Treasurers overwhelmingly support this flat, simplified, and transparent fee concept. In conclusion, I ask for you to support HB 2567. This flat fee bill is easy to explain, contains no hidden fees, and would provide simple, transparent revenue to support county Motor Vehicle operations. Thank you for your consideration.