



City of Bonner Springs

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

March 10, 2023

Representative Mike Thompson
Member – House Committee on Taxation
Room: 167-W

Dear Representative Thompson and Committee members,

I am writing on behalf of the City of Bonner Springs to oppose Senate Bill 248 as written. While appreciative of the efforts to reduce the State Legislature controlled sales tax burden on food and food ingredients, the inclusion of local sales taxes represents a significant impact on local control. Additionally, the overall loss to general fund budgets is harmful to City governments, as we use these stable levies to fund essential services.

In the case of Bonner Springs, two local sales tax levies were recently re-approved in 2022. These two levies have consistently received majority support from Bonner Springs voters and help to fund Public Safety and Public Infrastructure, respectively. This bill undermines the voters of the community who voted on these levies and their purposes.

If passed, cities around the State will be forced to fill this revenue loss with other funding sources. In the case of the City of Bonner Springs, the anticipated loss in sales tax revenue is equivalent to a property tax increase of 9 mills in order to maintain our essential services such as police, fire, and public infrastructure.

Thank you for your service and consideration of this important issue.

Sincerely,

Sean Pederson
City Manager

Cc: Mayor and City Council