



KANSAS
ASSOCIATION OF
COUNTIES

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Testimony of the Kansas Association of Counties to the
Senate Committee on Assessment and Taxation
Neutral Testimony on SB 263 • January 22, 2020

Madam Chair and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for allowing the Kansas Association of Counties to offer testimony regarding SB 263, which would make changes to the valuation notices sent to taxpayers.

KAC and its member counties support transparency in government, particularly in the area of taxation. Our residents should know what they are paying for, and how much they are paying.

However, KAC is concerned that the changes to the estimated tax amount may introduce more confusion than clarity for our taxpayers. Under current law, budgets for taxing entities, including counties, school districts, cities, etc. are set in the summer. Sending taxpayers an estimate before those budgets are set means that it is almost certain the “estimate” will be inaccurate. Putting inaccurate information in the hands of our taxpayers may serve only to add to the frustration when they are told that this is not necessarily reflective of their tax burden.

It may be more practical (and transparent) to wait until after budgets are set rather than giving information that is backward looking rather than forward looking.

KAC would encourage the committee to consider this as you consider this bill and any amendments that may be brought before the committee regarding this bill. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Jay Hall

Kansas Association of Counties

