

James R. Daily * Barb Esfeld * Shawn Hutchinson * Kirby Krier * Jennifer Schartz * County Commissioners

February 1, 2021

TO: Senate Committee on Assessment and Taxation

REF: SB 72

Madam Chair and Members of the Committee:

The Board of County Commissioners of Barton County, Kansas, has been briefed on SB 72, which would make changes to the qualifications and appraisal courses for appraisers in the State of Kansas. Barton County opposes this bill.

Any changes to the requirements of professional education in any area should be done very cautiously. The International Association of Assessing Officers (IAAO) is a resource utilized throughout the United States for education and training. Eliminating individuals holding the IAAO designations from those qualified as appraisers in Kansas limits the ability of the State of Kansas to attract experienced appraisers from others states who may be interested in relocating to Kansas.

Additionally, changing the continuing education approval process is not something that should be done without careful study. The KREAB's primary purpose is focused on protecting real estate loans rather than purely determining valuation. Counties are not lending institutions to their residents.

Barton County is opposed to SB 72. We ask that the committee not move forward on this bill. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

James R. Daily

Commission Chairman