



CITY OF HAYSVILLE, KANSAS

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March 11, 2024

MAYOR

RUSS KESSLER

CITY COUNCIL

WARD I

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JUSTIN BRUSTER
DANNY WALTERS

House Committee on Taxation
Hearing: Wednesday, March 13, 2024, 3:30 p.m.
Room 346-S

Re: Testimony in opposition of HB 2815

To Chair Adam Smith and Members of the Committee:

The City of Haysville is opposed to HB 2815 as it would abolish the Local Ad Valorem Tax Reduction (LAVTR) fund. Haysville has lowered its property tax rate by 6.465 mills over the last five years and would realistically be able to further reduce that rate if LAVTR were funded as state statute dictates.

As you know, LAVTR is a tool that was created to decrease the property tax burden on local taxpayers by providing some funding for local budgets through state sales tax revenues. Local residents already pay for LAVTR when they buy goods here in Kansas since LAVTR is derived from 3.63% of the total retail sales and compensating taxes credited to the state general fund. LAVTR serves as a means of reducing the reliance on property taxes to fund local governments.

Instead of abolishing the LAVTR, I urge you to consider funding LAVTR and help cities like Haysville continue to lower their property tax rates.

Sincerely,

Russ Kessler
Mayor