



February 12, 2024

Sen. Caryn Tyson, Chair
SENATE Assessment & Taxation Committee
Kansas State Capitol
300 SW 10th Ave.
Topeka KS 66612

RE: Written Only Testimony In OPPOSITION of SB 468 (Revenue Neutral/Econ Dev)

Dear Senator Tyson:

Thank you for considering the testimony provided by Scott County Development in OPPOSITION of SB 468. Our community has been diligent in identifying effective ways to reverse population decline over the past decade. Our efforts are working! If SB 468 is passed, it would be highly detrimental to the momentum of growth we have cultivated in Scott County, and furthermore, ALL rural Kansas!

SB 468 states that any city that would utilize Industrial Revenue Bonds, Tax Increment Financing districts and/or Tax Abatements beginning in 2025 would not be allowed to exceed the Revenue Neutral Rate. This bill harms cities, businesses, and citizens. These economic tools are used by cities to create needed economic development, by businesses to reduce costs of projects, and help citizens by bolstering job opportunities and clearing blighted areas. If passed, cities will be less likely to offer these programs. It should also be noted that non-profit entities utilize these programs, particularly IRBs.

The Revenue Neutral Rate process was created to provide more transparency and accountability as it relates to the property tax process. Tying any economic incentive programs usage to the Revenue Neutral Process undermines its purpose and is a bad precedent.

With Sincerity,
SCOTT COUNTY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Katie Eisenhour".

Katie Eisenhour, Executive Director

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