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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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**MARTY READ**  
4TH DISTRICT

Testimony to House Taxation Committee

Supporting: Session of 2015, HOUSE BILL No. 2361

March 9, 2015

Chairman Kleeb and Members of the Committee,

I appreciate this opportunity to testify in support of HB 2361, which relates to permitting Bourbon County to place a no larger than 1% retailers' sales tax on the county-wide ballot for the purpose of creating a betterment of law enforcement, judicial and/or jail facilities and a sales tax exemption for an all-volunteer pantry in Linn County.

As stated before, the first purpose of the changes proposed is to allow Bourbon County to seek a funding mechanism for improving their law enforcement, judicial and/or jail facilities which are, at best, just serving the needs of the community at this time. Although Bourbon County is seeking a 1% total possible increase in sales tax for this purpose, I have been informed that something less than ½% is being considered for this ballot.

On the sales tax exemption for Concern, Inc. (an official non-profit) of Linn County: I have seen the good work that this organization does for people in my district. All of the workers totally give their time freely to the mission of helping those needing assistance. The organization gave assistance funds to over 170 families who purchased items and services with the funds. They paid sales tax when they used their assistance money. Also, around 200 families purchased food and items from the pantry that aided their ability to have more for their families. All of the money that supports Concern, Inc. is only used for overhead costs that don't include salaries. I support the work that Concern, Inc. does and ask your support for this exemption provided in this bill.

I also encourage the committee to favor the sales tax ballot requested by approval of this bil, HB 23611.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marty Read". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Marty Read, Representative District 4