



WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY

**Testimony of Sandra Rupp, Ness County Commissioner  
Before the House Committee on Taxation  
In Support of House Bill No. 2756  
March 1, 2018**

Member Counties

*Barber*

*Barton*

*Clark*

*Ellis*

*Finney*

*Ford*

*Gove*

*Grant*

*Gray*

*Hamilton*

*Harper*

*Haskell*

*Hodgeman*

*Kearny*

*Lane*

*Logan*

*Meade*

*Morton*

*Ness*

*Norton*

*Rawlins*

*Rice*

*Russell*

*Rush*

*Scott*

*Seward*

*Sheridan*

*Sherman*

*Stanton*

*Stevens*

*Thomas*

*Trego*

*Wallace*

*Wichita*

Chairman Johnson and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for allowing Kansas Legislative Policy Group (KLPNG) to provide written testimony today in support of House Bill No. 2756. KLPNG is a non-partisan organization comprised of elected county commissioners representing the collective interests of 35 rural Kansas counties.

If enacted, House Bill No. 2756 would establish the “**Kansas Main Street Parity Act**” and provide a mechanism to collect local and state retail sales and use taxes for certain transactions conducted via the Internet.

The 2018 KLPNG Legislative Platform supports public policy requiring that retail sales made over the Internet, including the collection of the associated local and state sales tax, should be treated in the same manner as sales transactions occurring in brick and mortar stores.

Each year, more and more Kansans purchase goods and service over the Internet. Our member counties continue to experience declines in sales tax receipts due in large part, to online transactions. If passed, House Bill No. 2756 would help level the retailer playing field by mandating that online retailers collect taxes on previously untaxed remote sales. This would allow main street stores to more fairly compete with Internet retailers. The loss of the local sales tax revenue by virtual retailers makes the task of funding essential county services more difficult.

We ask for your support of this equitable public policy and urge you to recommend House Bill No. 2756 favorable for passage. Thank you for considering this written testimony.

Sandra Rupp  
County Commissioner  
Ness County  
KLPNG President