



Johnson County, Kansas • Department of Records and Tax Administration
John A. Bartolac, Director

Chairman Mike Burgess
House Committee on Government Efficiency
Statehouse, Room 151-S
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Chairman Burgess,

I am John Bartolac, the Director of Records and Tax Administration (RTA) for Johnson County. RTA is the combined offices of the County Clerk and Register of Deeds. I am writing to ask for your opposition to House Bill 2675.

House Bill 2675 will be heard by the House Government Efficiency Committee on Thursday, February 16, 2012 at 3:30 PM. I am writing this testimony with the support of the Kansas County Clerks' and Election Commissioners Association and the Kansas Department of Revenue.

House Bill 2675 seeks to repeal K.S.A. 79-408. This statute directs the County Clerk to prepare and maintain an assessment roll for the Appraiser to use in their annual valuation of real property for the ad valorem tax roll. The statute requires the Clerk to provide a "correct and pertinent description of each piece, parcel and lot". The Clerk obtains this information using their transfer records, records and plats from the Register of Deeds and other sources. This is a major function for the County Clerk, without which there would be no tax roll.

The assessment roll also contains ownership information, situs and mailing address and tax district information. All of these items are required for accurate billing, collection and distribution of ad valorem tax back to each taxing authority.

The creation and maintenance by the County Clerk of the assessment roll is a necessary and critical function to supporting all taxing jurisdictions. Please vote against its repeal.

Thank you for your time and attention regarding this important matter.

Sincerely,

John A. Bartolac, Director
Johnson County Records and Tax Administration