

February 15, 2012

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

Chairman Burgess,

As the County Clerk in Shawnee County, I am writing to ask for your opposition to House Bill 2675.

HB 2675 seeks to repeal K.S.A. 79-408, the *only* statute directing the County Clerk to prepare an assessment roll. This assessment roll is created and maintained after the Appraiser certifies the appraised values to the County Clerk. The Clerk is then required to provide correct descriptions of all real property as such information is presented through the transfer records and other documents. The Clerk uses this information, verifies ownership of each parcel and ultimately creates the tax roll.

The preparation of the annual property tax statements can only be accomplished through these steps: (1) the Appraiser certifies values to the County Clerk; (2) the County Clerk creates the assessment roll; (3) the County Clerk verifies ownership of all parcels, checks the budgets of every taxing entity, sets the levies and prepares the tax roll for certification to the Treasurer;

As you can see, K.S.A. 79-408 is **very important** in the process from appraising a parcel of land to the issuance of a tax statement. Without K.S.A. 79-408 there is no statutory authority whereby the assessment roll would be created and maintained. Please vote against H.B. 2675.

Thank you for your consideration to my request.

Sincerely,

Cynthia A. "Cyndi" Beck  
Shawnee County Clerk

c: Kansas County Clerks & Election Officials Association