

**Sedgwick County Modifications to
the Kansas Association of Counties
2015 Legislative Policy Statement**

State Issues

Governmental Organization

Open Records. We support a reduction in the current exemptions to the Kansas Open Records Act. All taxpayer funded organizations should be subject to the Kansas Open Records Act. (2001)

- **Local Health Departments.** Local health department responsibilities should be focused on the education and management of communicable diseases and disaster preparedness and response. We oppose federal intervention in local health departments via “health department accreditation” and strongly support legislation that prohibits state and local health departments from relinquishing control of their standards to anyone but the state legislature. (2005, 2010, 2013)

Nuisance Abatement. Sedgwick County opposes the expansion of nuisance abatement options for county governments to match those of city governments. (2012)

Medicaid Expansion. We oppose expansion of the Kansas Medicaid program.

Environment and Land Use

Energy Policy. We oppose the Renewable Portfolio Standards and urge their immediate repeal. (2005)

Local Regulation of Land Use. Sedgwick County strongly opposes enhancing the authority of counties to regulate land uses. We support changes to the zoning and comprehensive planning statutes that reduce mandates and increase protections for private property owners in the unincorporated areas.

Taxation, Finance and Infrastructure

Assessed Valuation Limitation. We support constitutional or statutory amendments limiting the change in assessed valuation for a parcel from one appraisal year to the next. (1998)

Spending and Taxing Lids. We support constitutional or statutory amendments to impose spending or taxing limitations on county government. We strongly support restrictions that require supermajority votes for taxation or that disallow lobbying by local officials for tax increases (1998)