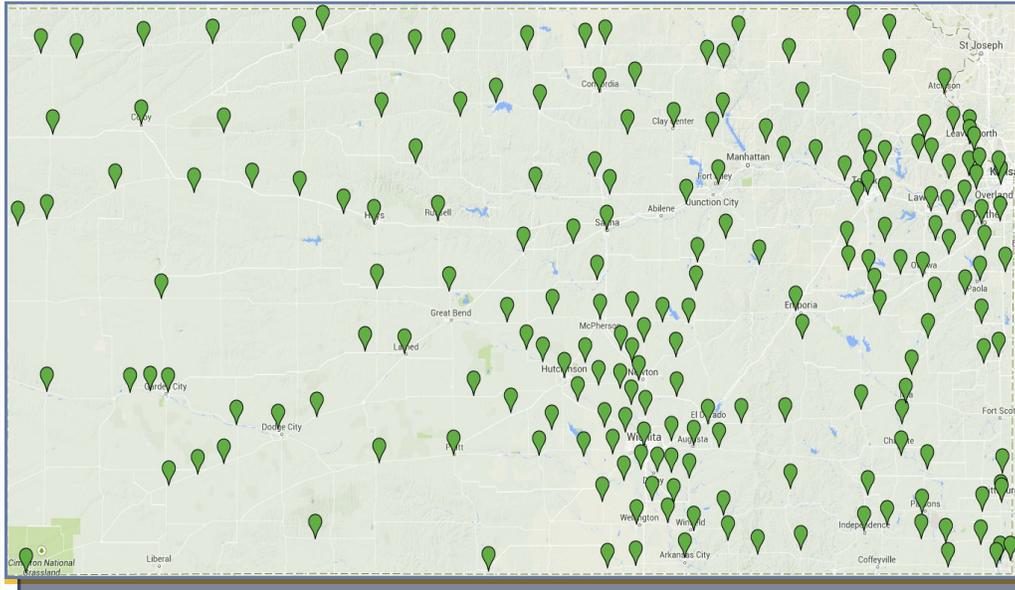




NOTES FROM THE RANGE

Oct. 8, 2014



Facts & figures

204 Kansas school districts have seen their mill levies decrease as a result of HB 2506.

To view the interactive map and see approved reductions in your school district, click [here](#).

Kansans seeing property tax relief from education bill

Autumn has arrived and the school year is well underway. As students begin seeing results from their efforts in the classroom, their parents and communities are starting to see results from HB 2506, the education bill passed earlier this year.

The \$175 million school finance bill included funding for master teacher bonuses, technical education programs, and higher education. It also included the largest property tax reduction the state has seen in more than 15 years.

These measures are producing tangible relief for many Kansans: 204 of our Kansas public school districts have approved mill levy reductions as a result of this legislation.

These property tax decreases mean that Kansans can keep more of their hard-earned paychecks to save, spend or invest as they see fit. And this, after all, is one of the primary purposes of good government: to protect the people's rights to what they have earned through their work.

State government must balance this goal with its other core functions, too, including the responsibility to fund its public education system fairly.

HB 2506 is helping us do just that by ensuring the proper equalization of those dollars, because all of our children deserve an excellent education, regardless of which school they attend or what part of the state they live in. In the process, this legislation not only benefits students and teachers, but homeowners and businesses as well.

I am thankful that the legislature took swift action to pass this bill. Our state has great public schools, and this legislation ensures that we will continue to excel in education.

Pictures From the Road



Northwest Technical College — This school is doing great work to help students develop valuable, marketable skills they can use to jump-start their careers in a variety of well-paying fields.



Kansas Department of Agriculture — State employees and their families joined us to celebrate the grand opening of the Department of Agriculture's new Manhattan office earlier this month.



Kansas Energy Expo — Through a series of exhibits and interactive learning opportunities, the expo highlighted the different energy sectors and their importance to the State of Kansas.



Sand Hills State Park Campgrounds — This park has been open for day use for 40 years but only recently became available for camping. Its outstanding horse trails make it a popular riding destination.



USS Oriskany Reunion National Convention — Kansas was proud to host the Oriskany Association's conference this year. These U.S. Navy Veterans traveled from all over the country to attend, and we are grateful for their service to our country.



AIG Expansion — American International Group celebrated the expansion of its Olathe operations this month, including the addition of 300 new jobs and more than \$20 million in capital investment.