## RESOLUTION NO. 224 -A

A RESOLUTION URGING THE KANSAS LEGISLATURE TO REMOVE THE "CAPS" ON THE DEMAND TRANSFER STATE AID PROGRAMS FROM THE STATE GENERAL FUND TO CITIES AND OTHER LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

WHEREAS, the City of Columbus, Kansas as well as Cherokee County and other local units of Government in Cherokee, County, Kansas, have enjoyed long-standing partnerships with each other and the State of Kansas; and

WHEREAS, the three Demand Transfer Programs (Local ad Valorem Tax Reduction, or "LAVTR", City-County Revenue Sharing; and Special City-County Highway Fund) are designed to provide revenue to cities, counties, and other local governments to reduce local property taxes as well as to finance services benefiting all Kansans; and

WHEREAS, with the exception of State Fiscal Year 1995, the legislature has imposed "caps" on the growth of the transfers of these three state aid programs each year since 1991, thereby reducing the statutory share of revenue to which local governments would be otherwise entitled; and

WHEREAS, during leaner years when state revenue growth lagged, local governments could better understand a potential need to "cap" the growth in State aid received from demand transfers from the State Government; and

WHEREAS, through strong local investments in roads, bridges, utility improvements, and local economic development efforts, local governments have demonstrated an aggressive and enthusiastic partnership with the State and private sector in building the Kansas economy; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the benefits from such a thriving economy be shared with local governments to control local property taxes and finance vital public services.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the governing body of the City of Columbus, Kansas, that the city and its local government partners urge the Kansas legislature to fully fund State FY 1999 Demand Transfer State Aid Programs for local governments, without artificial "caps" or restrictions; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the governing body of the City of Columbus, Kansas, which is directly accountable to our citizens,

pledges in good faith to utilize such additional revenues to control property taxes and finance essential services; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be sent to the legislators representing the City of Columbus, Kansas, Governor Graves and to other local units of government.

Adopted by the governing body of Columbus, Kansas, this 16th day of February, 1998.

Doug Garewood - Mayor

ATTEST:

Gail R. Houser - City Clerk

(SEAL)

CC. Tim Shallenburger

Bob Grant

Kansas League of Municipalities