



HOUSE ENERGY, UTILITIES & TELECOMMUNICATION COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6
PROPONENT TESTIMONY HB2527

Chairman and Members of The Committee:

The Greater Topeka Chamber represents the voice of over 1,000 business members, and today we write in support of the economic development provisions in HB2527, which ensure our ability as a state to capitalize on projects that contribute to the economic vitality of our communities.

HB2527 is crafted to ensure that our utility providers can meet demands now and into the future. We know that economic development and energy go hand in hand. Large manufacturers are seeking significant power, likely to exceed 2022's usage of 76MW. We know, factors that affect whether they'll execute their project plans include accessibility for their power demands and the speed it can be accessed.

We recognize our Partnership is not an expert in the Utility industry, and that our knowledge is limited in relation to other components in this measure, therefore we urge all stakeholders affected by this to convene and find the best language to meet concerns.

In the meantime, we ask members of this committee to recognize the importance of this measure, and the need for Kansas to stay abreast of energy demands, invest in infrastructure and be welcoming to existing and new industries interested in doing business in our state. We, the Greater Topeka Chamber and GO Topeka as the economic development agency for Topeka and Shawnee County urge the committee to provide favorability toward HB2527.

Respectfully submitted by:

Juliet Abdel, MS, IOM
President, SVP Government Affairs
Greater Topeka Chamber