

House Committee on Taxation
Representative Adams Smith, Chair

Written Testimony TC Broadnax

Chairman Smith and Members of the Committee:

I am writing to provide testimony in support of the request for a sales tax exemption for the construction project of a new Boys & Girls Clubs Topeka (BGCT) workforce readiness, career, and leadership development center. As an alum of BGCT and the current City Manager for Dallas, Texas, I understand the transformative impact such a center can have on the lives of young people and the broader community.

My journey with BGCT began as a young person seeking guidance, mentorship, and opportunities to develop essential skills for success. BGCT provided me with a safe and nurturing environment where I could explore my interests, build meaningful relationships, and acquire the tools needed to navigate the complexities of life and career.

Now, as a leader in a major city, I can attest to the critical importance of investing in our youth's future. A workforce readiness, career, and leadership development center will not only equip young people with the skills and knowledge needed for employment and civic engagement but will also contribute to building a stronger, more resilient community.

Providing a sales tax exemption for this construction project is a strategic investment in the future prosperity of Topeka and its residents. It demonstrates a commitment to supporting youth development, promoting economic growth, and fostering a culture of leadership and innovation.

I urge you to consider this request favorably, knowing that the benefits of this investment will be far-reaching and long-lasting. Thank you for your time and dedication to enhancing the opportunities available to our youth.