Testimony of Emily Sitsler

Proponent for the Arkansas City Area Library District Act

To whom it may concern:

Thank you for the opportunity to supply written testimony in support of HB 2176 regarding the creation of the Arkansas City Area Library District. My name is Emily Sitsler and I am a current employee and regular patron of the Arkansas City Public Library.

For many people, myself included, the library is a safe haven. It is one of the last places where one can exist without the expectation of spending money. It is a place to read the newspaper, apply for a job, or run into an old friend. For a community that struggles with poverty and rural isolation, the Arkansas City Public Library is paramount.

I support this bill because our community is growing and the library is expected to keep up. With 27% of our users residing outside of city limits, it only seems logical that their taxes are directed to the library that they patronize. If a new library district were created, we would be able to expand our outreach efforts to match the needs of our growing community.

It is for this reason that I support this legislation and ask that you recommend it favorably.

Respectfully,

Emily Sitsler

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