

Good Morning,

I am emailing today to ask for your opposition in VOTING NO to SB 468.

This SB will have catastrophic effects on us in Western Kansas. We just completed one of the largest projects to date at Mitten Inc., a new 31,000 sq ft. office complex and bulk fuel distribution center for our Family-Owned Travel Center. We utilized the TIF and Industrial Revenue Bonds, to help defray the expenses of trying to build commerce along interstate.

We live on minimal margins out here and if small-town rural folks like us can't have some sort of incentives to help offset the infrastructure and expenses with higher interest rates and debt services, it would not be feasible to continue growing out here.

Return on investment just isn't as productive out here as a lot of people tend to believe. As you know, we've completed numerous projects from hotels, housing, and restaurants while utilizing the Neighborhood Revitalization Programs (Property tax rebates), REDLG (Rural economic development grants), and many other state and local incentive programs. Up next, is a \$5 million remodel to our 57-year-old Travel center at Exit 76 on I-70.

These projects would not have come to fruition without some sort of incentives to help them make economic sense. Unfortunately, without growth, expansion, and improvement to our facilities and our communities, we lose our opportunity to recruit and retain good employees, and that has become one of our most valuable and vulnerable assets in rural America.

Again, I hope all is well with you and appreciate your support on this. If you would like to personally visit regarding this SB, please feel free to reach out to me.

Sincerely,

Matt Mildenberger, President/Owner of Mitten Inc. 785-672-2612

