



March 9, 2023

Madame Chair and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of the Wichita Regional Chamber of Commerce and our nearly 1,500 members, thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony in support of H.B. 2292, AN ACT concerning economic development; establishing a tax credit incentive program for apprenticeships; enacting the Kansas apprenticeship tax credit act.

This legislation passed the House 115-7 and would create an income tax credit of up to \$2,500 per hired apprentice per year with a limit of 20 apprentices per employer per year.

Apprenticeships are a critical piece of workforce development that benefit employers, students and prospective long-term employees. These programs provide hands on training, education and skill development for students, while also providing employers with much needed talent, as well as a pipeline for future full-time employees.

The Chamber supports H.B 2292 because it is an innovative approach to workforce development and education. Therefore, we would ask that the Committee report H.B 2292 favorable for passage.

Very truly yours,

Jason P. Watkins

Wichita Regional Chamber of Commerce