



**Unified Government of
Wyandotte County and Kansas City, Kansas**

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WRITTEN TESTIMONY

Senate Concurrent Resolution 1620

**Paul T. Davis
On behalf of the
Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas**

**Senate Commerce Committee
March 15, 2024**

Good Morning Chairwoman Erickson and Members of the Committee:

My name is Paul Davis and I am the lobbyist for the Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas (UG). The UG is testifying today as a proponent of Senate Concurrent Resolution 1620. This resolution would give the Unified Government the authority to form a port authority in Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas.

The UG Commission has made the creation of a port authority one of our legislative priorities. Wyandotte County previously had a port authority, but it was eliminated several decades ago when the General Motors manufacturing facility was constructed. We are interested in bringing back a port authority because of the increasing level of development along the Kansas and Missouri river corridors. Many of you may be familiar with the Rock Island Bridge development project. There are many other projects like this that are in the planning and development stages along the riverfront. The UG has also identified development of a significant tourist museum/facility at Quindaro Ruins as a major priority, which will significantly add to economic development in Wyandotte County and along the riverfront.

In order to maximize the economic development possibilities in Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas we believe the creation of a port authority is necessary and will aid us in bringing more tourism and tax dollars to the State of Kansas.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.