



Testimony in Support of House Bill 2343

**Kansas House Committee on
Commerce, Labor, and Economic Development**

February 11, 2025

Andrew Wiens
On behalf of
Opportunity Solutions Project

Chairman Tarwater and Members of the Kansas House Committee on Commerce, Labor, and Economic Development:

Good afternoon! My name is Andrew Wiens with Dugan Consulting Group, speaking with you today on behalf of Opportunity Solutions Project (OSP). OSP is a non-profit, non-partisan advocacy organization dedicated to advancing policies that reduce barriers to work, protect state benefits for the truly needy, and ensure that the government is accountable to taxpayers and citizens.

I am pleased to speak in support of House Bill 2343 today. HB 2343 creates the no-impact home-based business fairness act to limit the ability of municipalities to overregulate such businesses. The bill defines what constitutes a home-based business and states that a municipality shall not prohibit a no-impact home-based business or otherwise require a person to obtain a license or permit or other type of prior approval from the municipality to operate a no-impact home-based business.

Small businesses are the backbone of our economy, and many of them begin at home—around the kitchen table, in a garage, or from an apartment living room. Nationally, roughly half of all businesses start at home,¹ and many operate entirely online with just a few employees. Yet, in Kansas, entrepreneurs face an inconsistent patchwork of local regulations that make starting and running a home business unpredictable and, in some cases, impossible.

The reason this bill is before you today is that local governments have placed well-intended but still onerous restrictions on homeowners seeking to launch businesses inside their homes—even if they're working quietly inside, without bothering the neighbors. Some municipalities in Kansas impose restrictions on work hours or online sales or limit the work to family members or by square footage of work space. These arbitrary regulations undermine innovation, job creation, and economic growth.

The bill maintains the ability of local governments to establish regulations of a home-based business so long as they are narrowly tailored for protection of public health and safety, compliance with state or federal laws, and payment of applicable taxes.

Entrepreneurs should not have to ask permission from the government just to work inside their own homes. OSP supports HB 2343 because it ensures local governments in Kansas update ordinances to allow flexibility and innovation and employment opportunities for home-based business owners. I urge your favorable consideration of HB 2343. Thank you.

¹ <https://findstack.com/resources/small-business-statistics>