

HOUSE COMMITTEE  
COMMERCE, LABOR AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
HB2294 – NEUTRAL TESTIMONY

Chairman Tarwater and Committee Members, thank you for allowing us to provide testimony today. The M.E.T.L. coalition represents over 3,500 businesses and today we wanted to express our neutral position on HB2294.

We have a robust regional agenda that is used during the state legislative session. Childcare has continued to be a top priority of ours as we know it is a challenge felt within our business communities particularly in workforce development efforts.

Our stated priority reads; *M.E.T.L. supports efforts to streamline state programs that impact the delivery of childcare services. This current system is spread across several state agencies, creating bureaucracy that hinders our ability to efficiently implement the necessary interventions and solutions to scale up the delivery of high quality, affordable early childcare, and education.*

Based on this priority, coupled with the current bill text, we are writing to voice neutrality.

We want to reiterate the importance of continued focus on childcare solutions in Kansas. It is our hope that the legislature will continue to develop innovative solutions to this pressing business issue.

Respectfully submitted by:

Juliet Abdel, MS, IOM, CCE  
President, Greater Topeka Chamber  
On Behalf of M.E.T.L.



Manhattan • Emporia • Topeka • Lawrence

A coalition of local Chambers of Commerce

*M.E.T.L. a coalition of four local community chambers of commerce (Manhattan, Emporia, Topeka and Lawrence) with shared regional policy priorities at state and federal levels.*