



02/10/2025

Bill Lampe Executive Director South Central Kansas Economic Development District (SCKEDD)

9730 E 50th St N, Bel Aire, KS 67226

To the Commerce.Labor.Econ@house.ks.gov review board for the AIM K bill, HB 2308,

This letter of support is being provided for your grant entitled. AIM-K: AVIATION AND INNOVATIVE MANUFACTURING IN KANSAS. This letter of support also serves to express my interest and willingness to participate and support the bill, HB 2308, as a collaborator.

I have the unique distinction of working at SCKEDD for 23 years in several different leadership roles. I have worked in Coordinator roles, Program Manager role and now as the Executive Director. I have had the opportunity to work alongside and lead many amazing individuals to strengthen the South Central region in Kansas by providing grant services, lending services and grant writing and administration services. Working more than 20 years in the field of providing hope and help to Kansans who desperately want to contribute to our wonderful state has been the most rewarding part of my professional life.

SCKEDD's Lending Resource Team is led by Bethany Johnson. Bethany's 20 plus years in commercial lending experience with our organization has led to an explosion of interest and opportunities for regional borrowers. Our Grants administrative Team is led by Stephanie Marsh-Ballinger. Stephanie's expertise has grown our projects in recent years by expanding opportunities and increased efficiency with current practices to maximize SCKEDD's efforts in our region. Ashley Worley is SCKEDD's Operation Coordinator. She leads our efforts in administering Weatherization services in the southern portion of Kansas. Our staff is committed to our Mission. "We believe our role is to enhance economic vitality, community infrastructure and housing quality within the region we serve". We carry out this mission by providing business loans, grants for communities, grants for housing renovation, grants for weatherization, and working with donors to support our mission. Our team supports economic opportunities and efforts that strengthen our region and the entire state of Kansas.

SCKEDD is pledging our support for the opportunity of the AIM-K. Wichita, KS has years of expertise in the aerospace industry as well has developed manufacturing abilities. Wichita is the Air Capital of the World and SCKEDD supports leveraging Wichita State University's status as the #1 aerospace research and development program in the nation to partner with these efforts. This bill enhances the state's existing incentives and supports training for future employees, allowing for continuity of jobs which, in turn, will strengthen an industry that serves as the backbone of the Wichita community.

**Serving the
Economic Needs
of South Central
Kansas.**

Butler

Chautauqua

Cowley

Elk

Greenwood

Harper

Harvey

Kingman

Marion

McPherson

Reno

Rice

Sedgwick

Sumner

**9730 E. 50th Street
Bel Aire, Kansas
67226
p:316.262.7035
800.326.8353
f:316.262.7062
www.sckedd.org**



I believe this opportunity is essential to expand Wichita's aerospace reach with the continued partnership of Wichita State University. I am excited about this potential opportunity to improve our community and region.

In closing I want to say thank you to those leading the efforts to bring this needed opportunity to our community.

Warm Regards,

DocuSigned by:

Bill Lampe
B9E69C08CD47453...

SCKEDD Executive Director

**Serving the
Economic Needs
of South Central
Kansas.**

Butler

Chautauqua

Cowley

Elk

Greenwood

Harper

Harvey

Kingman

Marion

McPherson

Reno

Rice

Sedgwick

Sumner

**9730 E. 50th Street
Bel Aire, Kansas
67226
p:316.262.7035
800.326.8353
f:316.262.7062
www.sckedd.org**