



March 3, 2025

Dear Chairman Tarwater and honorable committee members,

On behalf of the De Soto Chamber & EDC please accept this written testimony in support of House Bill 2308, the AIM-K incentive program.

While the bill has a strong focus on the aviation industry which is synonymous with the Wichita area, we feel there are other components of it that fit well in the Kansas City region and specifically De Soto, with the Flint Commerce Center and Astra Enterprise Parks and their continued buildout.

We see an opportunity to continue the buildout of the EV battery ecosystem as well as similarly aligned products, such that the area become known for innovative technologies that provide good jobs.

As economic developers it is important to have a variety of tools in the toolbox and this would be yet another creative way that Kansas can remain on the leading edge in that regard.

The foresight of the Kansas Legislature to pass the APEX program has begun to bear fruit. We are excited about the spring opening of Panasonic and have been pleased with the attention and new businesses APEX has brought to not only De Soto, but to the entire region.

Kansas needs to remain competitive to attract quality companies and the investment they bring, as well as the jobs they create that provide our residents meaningful work and allow our kids to stay right here at home.

Thank you for considering such a progressive piece of legislation and we hope you will support its passage.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tim Holverson".

Tim Holverson